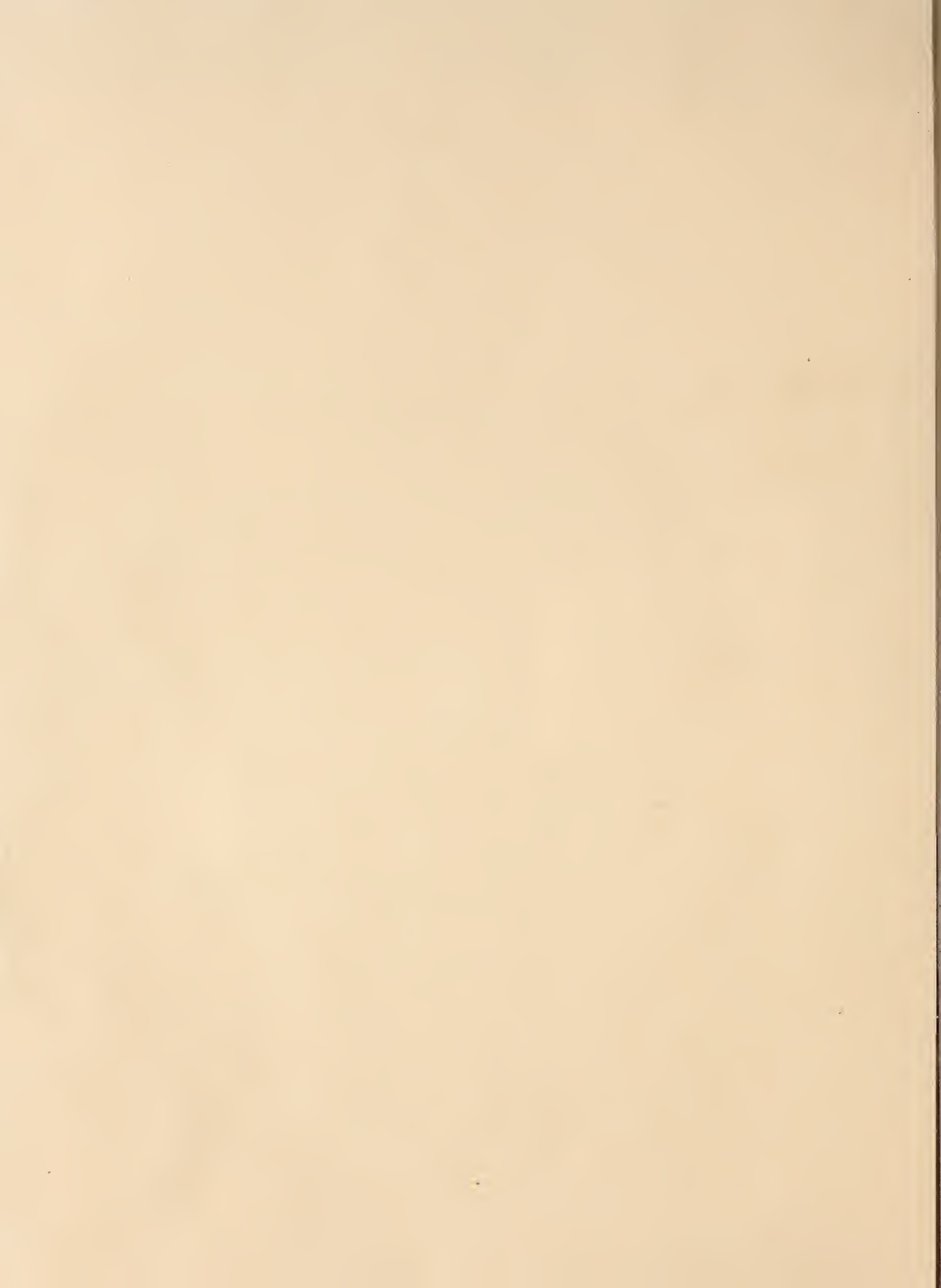


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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXVI, No. 41

Section 1

February 28, 1940

## TRADE ACT, EXPORTS UP

"The possibility of economic reprisals against Great Britain, France and Argentina for alleged discrimination against American commerce was brought into the hearings before the Senate Finance Committee yesterday on the resolution to extend the trade agreements act for three years," says Harold B. Hinton in the New York Times. "Secretary Wallace and Assistant Secretary of State Grady, while they gave the impression that there was little or no immediacy in the situation, conceded that problems along that line are under consideration.

Senators LaFollette and Vandenberg contended that since the outbreak of the war in Europe, discriminatory arrangements have been made by Great Britain and France against which trade agreements of the Roosevelt-Hull variety offer little defense...Senator Johnson of Colorado contended that increased agricultural exports have been due to the subsidy program for wheat and cotton and not to the trade agreements..."

The foreign trade of the United States continued at a high level in January, when exports were nearly 75 percent higher in value than in the first month of 1939 and imports were up more than a third, says a report in the Times. Exports were also up slightly from the high level of December, according to the Department of Commerce. "The exceptional rise in exports of cotton has been a principal factor in increasing the value of total export trade in the last few months compared with the corresponding months a year ago," said the announcement.

## FARM TENANT PROPOSAL

A new \$350,000,000 attack on the problem of farm tenancy was recommended yesterday by the House Agriculture Committee, according to an Associated Press report. Under the plan, as explained by Chairman Jones of Texas, the money would be raised from private investors. The funds would be lent to farm tenants so they could become farm owners, or would be used to refinance existing mortgages. The Agriculture Department would insure the mortgages securing the loans, for the purpose of making the investments attractive to private capital.

## COMMERCIAL DIVISION

A Division of Commercial Affairs was created by Secretary Hull in the State Department yesterday. It takes the place of the Consular Commercial Office and is headed by James J. Murphy, Jr. The division will direct activities which pertain to this country's commercial and agricultural interests abroad. (New York Times.)



Authors' Abstracts                      Authors' abstracts fill a gap between titles, which average ten words or less, and articles, which average several thousand words, says Gordon S. Fulcher, in a note in Science (February 23). "Authors can prepare good abstracts for publication with their articles," he says, "if they will regard the abstract not as an introduction or summary associated with the article but as a separate entity like the abstract in an abstract journal...If all the more than 100,000 scientific articles now published each year included adequate authors' abstracts, re-abstracting of the articles for the various abstract journals published in English, German, etc., would be unnecessary, and many trained scientists would be released from work which now requires some 500,000 hours of abstracting each year.

"Editors can secure adequate authors' abstracts, I am confident, if they merely require authors 'to prepare abstracts suitable for reprinting without change in an abstract journal'...Authors' abstracts supply the needs of the many readers who wish to know more of what the articles are about than the titles tell and of those who wish to know the main results without reading the articles. They also supply abstracts to the abstract journals, promptly and at minimum cost in the time of scientists. They constitute an essential feature of an efficient system of scientific documentation."

Quality of Wheat                      W. M. Jardine, president of the University of Wichita and former Secretary of Agriculture, recently told the Kansas Seed Wheat Improvement Association that quality of wheat is much more important than quantity, says a report in the Northwestern Miller (February 21). "Wheat of the Southwest now ranks high in protein," declared Dr. Jardine, "but it loses much of its standing when some farmers, eager to increase their yield by a few bushels, seed their fields to those varieties which are low in quality for bread-making purposes. The farmer may profit for a time by sacrificing quality to get quantity, but eventually such a policy will cost heavily. The farmer must remember that his interests are tied up with the interests of the miller and the baker and should cooperate if he is to keep on selling his wheat. If the farmer of the Southwest will not cooperate, he will find that the wheat growers of the Northwest and of Canada and Argentine will displace him in the market."

Minnesota Pear, Apple                      "After fifteen years of research and testing, the Minnesota station will place the Bantam pear on the market this spring," says Madge A. Brown, University of Minnesota, in Country Gentleman (March). "A very hardy, blight resistant pear, it can be grown successfully even under the severe conditions of the prairie provinces of Canada. Its early maturity, hardiness and resistance to blight make it possible to grow Bantam pears in Minnesota without protection or special care, a feature found in no other good eating pear. The station also announces a new hardy apple--Prairie Spy, which has been under test for fifteen years and will be available from nurseries in the spring."



**Cantaloupe  
Number 8**

Development of a new cantaloupe resistant to both strains of the powdery mildew which has been damaging Imperial Valley melon crops has been announced jointly by the University of California College of Agriculture and the United States Department of Agriculture. Known as No. 8, this new cantaloupe was developed through a cooperative breeding project between these two agencies. It answers the need for a variety resistant to a new form of mildew which suddenly appeared in the Imperial Valley fields two years ago.

Powdery mildew at one time threatened to destroy the cantaloupe industry in Imperial Valley. Cantaloupe No. 45 was developed by the University and the United States Department of Agriculture to meet this danger. Shortly after introduction of this variety, however, the new form of mildew to which No. 45 was not resistant, gained a foothold in the valley and caused heavy losses for the past two years. Under the direction of Dr. T. W. Whitaker of the U.S.D.A. and Dr. Glen N. Davis, instructor in truck crops at Davis, more than one hundred cantaloupe types are still being tested in the hope that an even better resistant variety than No. 8 may be obtained. (Western Grower and Shipper, Feb.)

**Plastic  
Furniture**

Woven plastic furniture for use on terraces, porches and lawns is now available says Newsweek (February 26). The material has a base of cellulose-acetate butyrate, and an improved process of molding the plastic permits forming it under heat and pressure into continuous strands which can then be cut and woven in the same manner as reed and rattan. Among advantages claimed for the new furniture are its rugged durability, excellent weather resistance, and striking decorative effects. It does not need to be painted. The plastic's low heat conductivity prevents it from becoming uncomfortably hot under the sun's rays, its low moisture absorption makes it quick-drying after rain; and it will not crack from exposure, thus eliminating the hazard of broken fibers' tearing dresses or hosiery. It costs about the same as high-grade rattan furniture.

**Fertilizer-  
Seed Drill**

There has been an increasingly insistent demand on the part of large vegetable growers and plant growers for a multiple-row machine to apply the fertilizer on one or both sides of the row at the time the seed is planted, says Farm Implement News (February 22). A company is now offering a machine which performs these functions in one operation. The machine plants four rows of seed and places a band of fertilizer on each side of each row up to 4 inches deep. Additional seeder units can be added to plant up to nine rows at a time, and if the rows are 10 inches or more apart, it will be necessary to add disc units for each row. The 5.25 --21 rubber tires are standard equipment.

Senate Passed H. R. 8319, State, Justice, and Commerce  
Feb. 26 appropriation bill. Agreed to a committee amendment  
striking out the \$35,000 item for Office of Foreign  
Agricultural Relations.

Committee on Privileges and Elections reported with amendments  
S. 3046, to extend the Hatch Political Activities Act to certain  
officers and employees of State Governments and the District of  
Columbia.

Mr. Lee submitted an amendment which he intends to propose to  
H.R. 3800, to amend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act,  
reducing to \$5,000 the maximum payment to any one person.

Received from the Interior Department a survey of the Natchez  
Trace Parkway route; to Com. on Public Lands and Surveys. (S. Doc.  
148.)

Adjourned until Thursday, February 29.

House Passed H. R. 8641, first deficiency appropriation  
Feb. 26 bill. As passed, the bill included the following items:  
fighting forest fires, \$3,550,000 (equal to the Budget  
estimate); insect and plant disease control, \$2,000,000 (Budget estimate  
was \$3,000,000); federal seed act, \$10,000 (Budget estimate was \$15,000);  
AAA payments, \$60,000,000 (equal to Budget estimate). Mr. Cannon stated  
that it has been agreed that if this item is made available for 1940, the  
same amount will be deducted from the item in the 1941 agricultural appro-  
priation bill.

Committee on Agriculture reported the following: with amendment,  
S. 1836, Lee Bill to amend the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act to provide  
for Government-insured loans to farmers, etc. (H. Rept. 1675); without  
amendment, H. R. 8450, to make permanent the reduced rates of interest  
on Federal Land Bank and Land Bank Commissioner loans (H. Rept. 1676).

Committee on Rules reported a resolution for consideration of S. 3069,  
to provide for increasing the lending authority of the Export-Import Bank,  
to provide for loans to Finland and China.

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Moisture J. S. Matthewson, of the Forest Products Laboratory,  
in Lumber writes in Wood Products (February) on a survey by the  
laboratory on the effect of storage on the moisture con-  
tent of lumber. "Stock seasoned to low moisture-content values should  
be stored in heated sheds," he says in summing up the results. "The  
average moisture content of seasoned stock stored within tightly con-  
structed sheds can be satisfactorily maintained through the use of rela-  
tively inexpensive equipment. Whether an unheated shed is closed or  
nearly closed makes little difference in its effect on the average  
moisture-content changes of the stock stored within. Storage in an un-  
heated insulated or lined compartment is but little better than in an  
uninsulated compartment provided the stock is protected from the ground  
moisture by means of a floor or by an ample ventilating space beneath  
the pile."



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Vol. LXXVI, No. 42

Section 1

February 29, 1940

## FARM INCOME SITUATION

Cash income from farm marketings and government payments in January totaled \$733,000,000, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics reported yesterday. In January 1939 cash income totaled \$634,000,000 and in December \$801,000,000. Income from farm marketings in January declined slightly more than seasonally from December and amounted to \$607,000,000 compared with \$710,000,000 in December and \$593,000,000 in January last year. Government payments in January of \$126,000,000 were the largest for any month since they began. In December government payments totaled \$91,000,000 and in January last year \$41,000,000.

The bureau says the monthly report on income from farm marketings and the report on monthly receipts from the sale of principal farm products by states have been combined into one report--the Farm Income Situation, of which this is the first issue. Suggestions concerning the new report will be appreciated, says the bureau, and may be sent to the Division of Economic Information, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

## FSCC BUTTER PURCHASING

The government re-entered the butter market yesterday for the first time since nearly a year ago, says an Associated Press report from New York. The Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation bought 280 tubs of 92-score butter at 28 1/2 cents a pound. This price compared with 25 1/2 to 26 cents paid in March 1939, the end of a six-month period of government purchases amounting to 26,000,000 pounds.

## FOREIGN FOOD SUPPLIES

A London wireless to the New York Times says that David Lloyd George warned yesterday that Britain's food position was worse now than in the last war and urged a vast home food production campaign "before it is too late." Britain is unprepared on the food front, he added. In the ten past years rich pasturage had become derelict through neglect and lack of drainage. Weeds had robbed the land of millions of tons of sustenance, he said.

A telephone report to the Times from Bucharest says that negotiations for a new agreement, to replace the one that has just expired, on the exportation of Rumanian meat and livestock/ <sup>to Germany</sup> began yesterday. Timber is also becoming an important item in Rumania's exportable commodities, since the Russian-Finnish war has cut off this northern country as a source of supply.



**Water Culture Experiments**      The water-culture method of growing plants for physiological studies, which has been widely used for exact experimentation with annual plants, has been relatively neglected for such studies with perennials, says H. L. Pearce, of the British Research Institute of Plant Physiology, in the Journal of Pomology and Horticultural Science (January). "Apples would be expected to be especially difficult subjects for such culture as the roots are very sensitive to water-logging. However, it has been shown that very good and uniform growth can be obtained provided the solution is continuously aerated. It is impossible to say definitely at present whether the beneficial effect of aeration is due merely to maintaining a high oxygen content in the solution, or to some indirect action such as the prevention of bacterial accumulation. For nutritional experiments the water-culture method with trees has great possibilities, because with the rapid growth which takes place, especially under glasshouse conditions, deficiencies show up very quickly. In addition, at any period during their life cycle, trees can be deprived of particular nutrients much more quickly and effectively than in either soil or sand-cultures.

This journal says that owing to the exigencies of the war, the dates of issuance may be irregular, and some modification of standards in regard to number of pages, quality of paper, etc., may become imperative.

**Radio Frost Warnings**      California Citrograph (March) commenting editorially on frost warnings given over the radio by Floyd D. Young of the Weather Bureau in California, says: "Because this winter was a bland one in no way minimizes the value of this work. If, in the throes of an economy wave, efforts are made to curtail it, growers must be prepared to take vigorous steps to see it continued on its present efficient basis. It is an inexpensive form of valuable insurance. Government regulations do not permit a sponsorship, but a chain store organization, as a matter of public service, did relinquish time for which it paid so that growers might hear Mr. Young's nightly predictions. Efforts are now being made by the Citrus League to arrange for such broadcasts for the future...."

**1939 Freight Revenues**      Freight, which furnishes four-fifths of the total rail revenue, yielded an increase of \$395,000,000 in 1939 over the year before, reports the Department of Commerce. Peak carloadings in 1939 reduced the reserve of freight locomotives to only 10 percent. New material for freight-car construction as well as mechanical improvements have increased the speed and efficiency of freight services but the net effect has been to make obsolete many cars that are in service.

Commercial  
Plant  
Breeding

Florists Exchange (February 17) contains a paper by Alex Cumming, who advocates the formation of a plant breeding institute. Speaking to the New England Nurserymen's Association, he said: "We are an industry and we have something to offer that is needed and is decidedly attractive. The automotive industry in terms of years is an infant, but it has attained enormous proportions and sells its products in millions of dollars value each year. How did it get that way so quickly as an industry, and why does it continue to expand? Because, the independent makers got together, pooled their resources, and from then on neither research nor invention was a load on any one maker. More important, perhaps, the best brains of that industry were combined with an objective -- to make a product better and then produce it at a price that would guarantee quantity sales.....

"We must realize it is a problem beyond the individual, this association, or in any group or association. It is a project for the industry.....I believe it can be done in this way. Let us establish what we may call for the moment 'An Institute of Ornamental Plant Improvement.' The object -- not institutional research, not scientific breeding, but practical ornamental plant breeding on a cold-blooded, purely commercial basis. The function of this Institute would be to produce better varieties on a scale so large that it will not only improve our existing market, but develop outlets that are new."

Pea Weevil  
Control

Oregon Farmer (February 15) says that control measures for the pea weevil, developed by the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine and the Idaho, Washington and Oregon Experiment Stations, have saved the northwest pea industry. "Here are some significant figures from the Washington-Oregon canning pea section," it says. "In 1935 there were 12,000 acres devoted to peas and while the acreage left uncut because of weevil damage was not recorded it was discouragingly large. The next year, 1936, however, which saw the researchers hold out some hope to the pea industry, acreage increased to 28,900 acres and uncut acreage was placed at 6 percent. The next year, which saw some actual control work, 38,000 acres were devoted to peas and loss was cut to 1.9 percent. The next year, 1938, on 34,000 acres, extensive dusting brought a still further reduction in loss -- to 1.1 percent. In 1939, with acreage at 32,000, uncut acreage was reduced to 0.7 percent. Looking at the 1939 record from the other side it means that control was 99.3 percent complete in the big canning pea district. The year was one of unusual weevil abundance, so had there been no control, damage would have been tremendous. It is doubtful if anywhere in the insect control field is a higher degree of efficient control being secured....."



House                      Began debate on S. 3069, for increasing the lend-  
Feb. 27                    ing authority of the Export-Import Bank to provide for  
                             loans to Finland and China.

Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 8668, War Department civil appropriation bill.

The Senate was not in session.

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Industry and              The Director of the Kansas Industrial Development  
Agriculture              Commission, R. A. Clymer, writing in Kansas Farmer  
                             (February 24) says that the trend today is toward a  
closer working relationship between industry and agriculture. "More than 200 research projects are under way in Kansas," he says in the concluding paragraphs. "Five fellowships, under legislative appropriation, are now under way at the University of Kansas and Kansas State College. These studies cover the economics of the ceramic industry, freight rates, the efficiency of Kansas coal, economics of the meat packing industry, derivation of starches from farm products, and new sources of concrete aggregates within the state. The Industrial Commission is supporting, on a matched-dollar basis, an investigation into the commercial possibilities of by-products of coal at the Kansas State Teachers College.

"In addition to these, about 180 established research projects are being carried on in the engineering and agricultural experiment stations at Kansas State College, 10 at Hays, and 3 each at the Colby and Garden City experiment stations. Kansas intends to learn the extent of all its resources. The Industrial Development Commission realizes the immensity of its task and the indisputable fact that any type of state promotion must be long range in its scope. Perhaps five years is a minimum in which to expect anything like a tangible return from state campaigning, no matter how adroitly it is planned and executed....."

Sea Island              Florida-grown cotton worth 33 cents a pound was  
Cotton                    on exhibition at the fair in Tampa recently, says an  
                             Associated Press report. It is Sea Island cotton,  
now coming back into quantity production after a lapse of many years. There are no restrictions on acreage. The greatest obstacle in growing Sea Island is the danger of mixing with other varieties. Because of this, the state legislature authorized Sea Island production in areas where planting of other varieties may be prohibited by vote. The State Department of Agriculture said the supply of pure strain seed is limited.

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Vol. LXXVI, No. 43

Section 1

March 1, 1940

## AID FOR FARMERS

"Many people both in and out of Congress have an impression that the government has been wickedly pouring out money so that farmers could get rich without working, to the detriment both of their characters and of the national finances," an editorial in the New Republic (March 4) says in part. "This is about as far from the truth as we could get. Unless the agricultural part of the population, about a quarter of the whole, has a reasonably large income, prosperity is impossible for the rest of us. The farm families are a tremendously important market for the goods produced by the cities. When farmers cannot buy these goods, factories close down, workmen are discharged and the whole familiar dreary round of depression begins..."

"In general it is true that the people who advocate government economy don't understand economics. They got their way in 1937 and very nearly wrecked the country; unless resistance is fierce they will get their way again in 1940. Nowhere is the folly of their course better indicated than when they slash the funds available to keep our agriculture on an even keel."

## FOREST SERVICE

The New Republic also comments on the proposed transfer of the Forest Service from Agriculture to Interior, saying: "We are confident that if the President and his advisers will take the time to acquaint themselves with all the facts, the transfer will not be made...Trees are primarily a crop, as President Roosevelt himself recently pointed out; they should be cared for by the government department charged with looking after other crops. The Forest Service cooperates on important matters with other bureaus of the Department of Agriculture, such as the Soil Conservation Service."

"A long list of national organizations that have looked into this question have passed resolutions opposing this transfer. They include the American Forestry Association, the Association of State Foresters, the Society of American Foresters, the Izaak Walton League and numerous farm groups. These are people who ought to know what they are talking about."

## FARM PRICES

Local market prices of farm products averaged 2 points higher on February 15 than a month earlier, the Agricultural Marketing Service reported yesterday. Though prices of farm products are now slightly higher than in the prewar period, they are still below parity.

Anglo-French Trade Policy      A further important step toward economic unification of England and France was taken this week with the simultaneous removal by both countries of the restrictions which were imposed at the beginning of the war upon private trade between the two nations, says a report by the Paris correspondent of the Wall Street Journal. Under the new set-up, English and French business men will be able to do business with one another, unhampered by the many formalities and delays which mark commercial transactions with other countries. As a result, it is expected that the two empires will be welded still further into one economic unit and that trade between the two will grow at the expense of business outside. Included in the decree was a strict wartime economy plan which will cut French imports of many American articles, but will permit importation of American war materials.

Grassland Farming      The East African Agricultural Journal (January) reprints an address by P. V. Cardon of the Bureau of Plant Industry on grassland in the United States, and comments editorially: "Regarded from the viewpoint of the American writer whose article is reproduced in this number, little progress has yet been made (in Africa) toward 'grass-consciousness,' although we have acquired in recent years much of what he describes as 'grass-mindedness'. The distinction he draws between these two concepts is important. 'Grass-mindedness' is regarded as the culture of grass for specific purposes. Although little of the grassland of East Africa can be said to be cultured at the present time, we have at least appreciated the necessity of regenerating the grass cover of denuded native areas, and our methods of erosion control are aimed at this object. 'Grass-consciousness' goes much deeper; it regards grassland itself as the all-important matter....."

Honey Report      Gleanings in Bee Culture (March) in an editorial on the semi-monthly honey report issued by the Agricultural Marketing Service, says: "It is a very valuable report for all who are affiliated with the beekeeping industry because it gives a birdseye view of conditions over the country. We hope that those who have been receiving this report will indicate to the Agricultural Marketing Service immediately their desire to continue receiving it. We urge the cooperation of beekeepers in this matter in order to insure the continuance of this valuable report."

Silage Studies      The executive board of the National Association of Silo Manufacturers recently passed a resolution that the association "adopt and recommend reenforcing schedules for farm silos for corn, grass or other forage crops, in accord with data, findings and chart entitled 'Silo Investigations' as issued by the Department of Agriculture." Farmers' Bulletin 1820, Silos--Types and Construction, contains information on the higher pressures of grass silage and the additional reenforcement that may be needed, as well as general information.



Cooperation  
in Fire  
Fighting

The public must give individual and voluntary help to the state foresters, the extension foresters and the U. S. Department of Agriculture in fighting forest fires, says W. L. Shaddix, director of the Southern States Forest Fire Commission, in Southern Agriculturist (March). "The government alone, with available funds, cannot do the whole job," he says. "The organization of the Southern States Forest Fire Commission was begun early in 1939 in the hope that, through contact with county educational authorities in the South, a large group of school boys could be enlisted in putting out fires in their respective home communities....Work of the commission in a number of counties suffering worst from fires has proved this hope to be well founded. We are organized in a number of counties for the oncoming conflagrations that have become an annual affair where there are timber and cut-over lands. The commission is extending this work throughout the South as time and funds permit. The work has been, and will continue to be, carried out with voluntary contributions....The commission wishes to petition all civic-minded citizens of our Southland to join in the work as speakers before P.T.A. units, county teachers' associations, civic clubs, garden clubs, and farmers' gatherings, and to help circulate literature that can be obtained without cost from county agents, state forestry departments and the United States Department of Agriculture."

New Dairy

The appointment of C. A. Cary as Chief of the Section Chief Division of Nutrition and Physiology in the Bureau of Dairy Industry has been announced by O.E. Reed, chief of the bureau. Mr. Cary will succeed Dr. E. B. Meigs, who started the dairy cattle nutrition studies in the Department in 1915. Doctor Meigs will remain with the division in the capacity of consultant and collaborator, and will continue his researches in the nutrition of dairy cattle.

Carcass Weight

"Selling hogs on the hook instead of on the hoof has attained such proportions in Canada, Denmark and England as to encourage the Iowa Experiment Station to conduct a study along that line," says an editorial in the Farmers Guide (Feb. 24). "According to the findings, selling on the carcass-value basis instead of by live-weight seemed to offer several advantages. Since it is more difficult to determine accurately the true value of a carcass when on a liveweight basis the price range between high and low grade hogs consequently is not so great as when on the carcass basis. Farmers producing good market carcasses relatively free of blemishes would receive a greater share of the total paid for the hogs than before and the producer of low-grade pork would be penalized more severely.

"Over a long-time period the price incentive to produce higher yielding and better quality hogs would bring up the general average grade, enabling the packer to pay more money to the farmers. Then there is the matter of 'fill' at the yards. This cost would be saved by the producer



since sale by the carcass weight plan would remove any incentive for 'filling.' Whether the preceding advantages would be realized in the United States is problematical but a system which works successfully in three other countries is worthy of consideration."

House                      Began general debate on H. R. 8668, War Depart-  
Feb. 28                    ment civil functions appropriation bill. This bill  
                             contains \$2,000,000 to be transferred to this Depart-  
ment for flood control surveys.

                             Passed as reported S. 1935, to extend until March 4, 1944, the  
time during which petitions may be filed by farmers under the Bank-  
ruptcy Act.

                             Passed S. 3069, to provide for loans to Finland and China.

                             The Senate was not in session..

                             (From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Record                      "One of the Guernsey cows at Klondike Farm, Elkin,  
Guernsey                    North Carolina, has recently made a world's record  
                             butterfat production," says Southern Dairy Products  
Journal (January). "The cow, Klondike Jette 442728 A.R. produced  
18,238.3 pounds of milk and 930.3 pounds of butterfat in one year in  
Class DD (or as a three and one-half year old). This is the largest  
milk and butterfat record made by a Guernsey of this age....Klondike  
Jette was sired by Argilla Knight 193529 A.R., the senior herd sire at  
Klondike, who has 24 Advanced Register daughters whose production  
records average 11,926.5 pounds of milk and 612.1 pounds of butterfat.  
The dam is Foremost Ingeborg 356619 A.R. who has two Advanced Register  
records including one of 15,640.1 pounds of milk and 804.9 pounds of  
butterfat in Class B (or as a four and one-half year old)...."

Civil Service              The Civil Service Commission announces the follow-  
Examinations              ing examinations: No. 20; unassembled, Selection of  
                             Chief, Research and Statistical Service, \$5,600, Office  
of Education, Federal Security Agency. The qualifications of appli-  
cants will be passed upon by a special board of examiners. No. 21;  
unassembled, Assistant Mycologist (Soils), \$2,600, Bureau of Plant  
Industry. Applications must be on file not later than the following  
dates: (a) March 25, if received from States other than those named  
in (b), (b) March 28, if received from the following States: Arizona,  
California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah,  
Washington, and Wyoming.

Speed of                    Railroads of the United States in 1939 attained a  
Freight                    new high record in the average speed of freight trains,  
                             J.J. Polley, president of the Association of American  
Railroads, has announced. The average speed, according to reports for  
the year, was 62 percent higher than in 1920. The average distance  
traveled per freight train per day in 1939, was 401 miles compared with  
398 miles in 1938, and 386 miles in 1937. In 1920, the average was only  
247 miles. This represents the average time required for the movement of  
all freight trains between terminals including all delays en route. (Press.

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Vol. LXXVI, No. 44

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Section 1

March 4, 1940.

## POLITICAL ACTIVITY BARRED

The Agriculture Department has notified its 130,000 farmer members of local AAA committees, many of whom are party leaders, that they must not take active part in forthcoming Presidential, State, Congressional and local campaigns. The committeemen are subject to the Hatch act designed to prevent "pernicious" political activity on the part of Federal employees. Aides of Secretary Wallace said a ruling by the solicitor, Mastin G. White, holding the AAA committeemen liable under the Hatch law, was "significant." The Administration has counted these farmers as the backbone of the rural support for the Wallace crop-control programs. About 70,000 other employees of the department, both in Washington and in the field, also have been instructed to stay out of active politics. (Associated Press.)

## WAR CUTS EXPORTS

The Agriculture Department said yesterday that the European war had diminished the export demand for farm products, but had increased domestic demand through stimulating industrial production. "United States exports of tobacco and fruits have been greatly reduced," it said. "Exports of pork and lard are not up to the volume flow normal in a year of large production and low prices. Export sales of cotton have been good, but have declined recently. Little wheat is going abroad." In discussing the increased domestic demand flowing from greater industrial production, the department said the outlook was "less propitious now that industrial production has declined." (Washington Post.)

## AUSTRALIAN WOOL POLICY

Sir George Dalziel Kelly, chairman of the Australian Wool Board has announced that Dr. Ian Clunies Ross, Australian representative, who spent some weeks in the United States is now coming to Australia, says a Melbourne wireless to the New York Times (March 3). He will give the board whatever information he gathered there concerning the American manufacturers' unsatisfied demand and will then return to London. Sir George said, Australian wool growers could not forget their experience after the last war, when there was an accumulation of 2,500,000 bales, of which 1,800,000 were Australian, necessitating the creation of the British-Australian Wool Realization Association for the liquidation of the surplus, a task which occupied four years. (New York Times.)



New-Style  
Cotton  
Stockings

New experimental cotton stockings have been making their appearance from the Bureau of Home Economics in Washington, says Robert D. Potter, in an article, "Work for New Fabrics," in Science News Letter (February 24). "These new stockings," he says in part, "are still another competitor in the highly lucrative market of women's hose. Cotton they are, in basic material, but they have overcome the long time bugaboo of cotton stockings; the poor fit and non-snugness that leaves tell-tale wrinkles on the ankles of the wearer. Also the new hose -- not yet on the market -- have a sheerness which one would not have believed possible. Made on the same machines that weave ordinary silk stockings the new cotton hose promise increased use of America's huge cotton surplus. Smart salesmanship by the U.S.D.A. experts says frankly that cotton hose do not rival silk stockings in appearance but goes on to add quickly, 'You wouldn't wear your silk evening dress to play golf, would you? Then why wear sheer, evening weight hose on the golf course or in the garden?' With trick mesh weaves in attractive shades the government people offer the alternative stocking for sports; a cotton stocking that will give long wear plus good looks. Women are becoming more sensible, reason the U.S.D.A. experts, and are coming to realize that dance floor hosiery styles offer all too little for the average housewife when viewed in the light of the dent put in the household budget by the item of stockings....."

Tailless  
Sheep

About twenty-five years ago an animal husbandman at the Dakota Station, J. W. Wilson, received a small flock of sheep from Siberia, says an item in Successful Farming (March). The sheep had long, coarse hair, wide, fat rumps and no tails. "Wilson decided to change the long, coarse hair to fine wool by crossing with the native breeds," it continues, "and to eliminate that objectionable rump by crossing and selection, retaining, of course, the no-tail feature. That was 26 years ago and today Wilson is at last enjoying the fruit of his long work. Recent tests conducted through the home economics department at South Dakota College ranked the wool from the crossbred, no-tail breed of sheep tops in comparison with five major breeds for the manufacture of flannel. The fat rump is gradually being eliminated by a process of careful selection and breeding. Of late years it has not been necessary to dock any of the lambs, the tails either being very short or entirely absent. As a breed the no-tail sheep have shown more vitality, have stronger lambs at birth, and are better able to shift for themselves than other breeds of sheep....."

Red Pine  
Newsprint

The first newsprint from red pine has recently been produced at the New York College of Forestry, says a Syracuse report in American Lumberman (Feb. 24). The red pine trees were grown on college land and manufactured into pulp and newsprint in the college laboratories by the groundwood process.



Application of Research      "Gaps between the discovery of knowledge and its application in government, in industry, in education and in the everyday life of men and women are constantly troubling the research worker in natural science and still more in economics and sociology," says Planning (February 13) issued by Political and Economic Planning in London. "A series of efforts has lately been made to close some of these gaps. The establishment of the British Association Division for the Social and International Relations of Science marked the public recognition by scientific workers of the need for interesting themselves in the use to which their researches were put. The National Institute of Economic and Social Research was set up not long before the war to promote co-ordination between leading grant-giving bodies and to enable university research workers to plan their studies in cooperation with one another.....A significant experiment in this direction is now being made by an arrangement between the Rockefeller Foundation, PEP and the Film Centre. Under this arrangement the Foundation has given a grant of £ 1,000 for the making of a series of scenarios for films showing the impact of the war on the social life of Britain...The Film Centre is composed of a number of film producers to whose work is due a great deal of the recent progress of documentary films not only in Britain but in the United States and elsewhere. Scenarios are being prepared dealing with evacuation, nutrition, food, and rationing policy, public opinion and the maintenance of cultural life during war. Preliminary exploration suggests that there is room for valuable contact between documentary film producers and social and economic research....."

New Fruit Products      Fruit Products Journal (February) mentions the annual report of the New York (Geneva) Experiment Station, and adds: "The projects dealing with fruit by-products are conducted in cooperation with the Division of Chemistry and with the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Emphasis is placed particularly upon the development of fruit juices. Among the juices receiving attention are rhubarb, strawberry, raspberry, blackberry, dewberry, cherry, pear, peach, quince, grape, plum, prune, and apple. Apple juice has been developed to the point where it is now in commercial production, utilizing methods developed at the station. Rhubarb juice is said to be one of the most promising and has been found to be an excellent blending agent. Fresh raspberry and strawberry products also show much promise....Frozen pulp desserts have been developed which preserve the delicate aroma and flavor of fruits, as well as fruit syrups for use at soda fountains in place of the synthetic products now widely employed...."

Senate                      Agreed to the House amendment to S. 1935, to  
Feb. 29                      extend until March 4, 1944, the time during which  
                             petitions may be filed by farmers under the Bankruptcy  
Act. This bill now goes to the President.

                             Agreed to the House amendments to #. 3069, to provide for loans  
to Finland and China. This bill now goes to the President.

                             Mr. Murray submitted an amendment to be proposed to H. R. 8641,  
first deficiency appropriation bill, to increase the item for insect  
and plant-disease control from \$2,000,000 to \$3,500,000.

                             Adjourned until Monday, March 4.

House                      Passed H. R. 8668, War Department civil appropria-  
Feb. 29                      tion bill, which contains \$2,000,000 to be transferred  
                             to this Department for flood control surveys, etc.

                             Committee on Rules reported a resolution for consideration of  
H.R. 8157, to establish a national land policy and to provide for  
homesteads for farm families.

                             Received from the President a supplemental estimate of \$60,000,000  
for 1940 payments under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment  
Act and the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938. (H. Doc. 643.) This  
item has already been included in H.R. 8641, first deficiency bill,  
which has passed the House.

House                      Passed S. 685, to create a Division of Water Pol-  
March 1                      lution Control in the Public Health Service.

                             Adjourned until Monday, March 4.

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Vegetable                      Vegetable supplies for the late winter and early  
Supplies                      spring are expected to continue short until the first  
                             of April, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics says.

Prospects for production were reduced considerably by the late January  
cold wave in the Southern States. The freezing weather destroyed a  
large acreage of tender vegetables and lowered prospective yields from  
the remaining acreage. The flow of many fresh vegetables to market  
has been sharply curtailed, and market prices have advanced to unusually  
high levels.

Bentonite                      A wax emulsion containing bentonite has been  
Emulsion                      developed by Dr. E. J. Miller of the Michigan station.  
                             When applied to trees and shrubs, it prevents excessive  
evaporation. It is of special value before or at the time of trans-  
planting. It also reduced winter injury on evergreens. The concen-  
trated material is diluted and sprayed on the trees or shrubs. (American  
Forests, March.)



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Vol. LXXVI, No. 45

Section 1

March 5, 1940

## AAA BARS POLITICAL ACTIVITY

The Daily Digest yesterday carried on page 1 an item stating that the local AAA committeemen are barred by an order from taking part in political campaigns. An editorial in the Washington Post this morning says in part: "The order to the AAA committeemen was not due, as wrongly reported, to their inclusion under the Hatch Act. Except for a limited number of fulltime state committeemen employed by the AAA, the local farmer groups paid on a per diem basis are not regarded as federal employees within the meaning of the Hatch Act. It is the articles of association under which the local committees operate that prohibit committee members from becoming active managers of political campaigns. In other words, the political ban is the result of a self-imposed rule that has nothing to do with the Hatch Act."

## BILL WOULD REMOVE FCA

Five Senators joined yesterday in introducing legislation to take the Farm Credit Administration out of the Agriculture Department, where it was placed last year by a Presidential reorganization order, says an Associated Press report. The Senators are Gillette of Iowa, Hatch of New Mexico, Mead of New York, Miller of Arkansas and Truman of Missouri. Under the bill the FCA would be placed under direction of a federal credit board consisting of six members, including the Secretary of Agriculture as member ex-officio and five members appointed by the President by and with the advice of the Senate.

Meanwhile, Governor A. G. Black told the FCA's 12 district general agents that apprehension over the FCA's inclusion within the department was unwarranted. He said: "The Farm Credit Administration is created and directed by laws to do certain things and certainly there will be no effort from an administrative standpoint to seek more leeway in their administration than they themselves give, and the approach, of course, always will be to give the farmers the best service possible."

## FARM LOAN PROPOSAL

Four farm-state leaders laid before Congress yesterday a proposed revamping of the farm loan system which, they said, would make land banks self-supporting yet cut the interest rates to farmers, according to an Associated Press report. They would put a flat 3 percent interest charge on farm real estate loans. Farmers now pay 3 1/2 percent on land bank loans and 4 percent on land bank commissioner loans. The bill was proposed by Chairman Jones of the House Agriculture Committee and Senators Wheeler of Montana, Bankhead of Alabama and La Follette of Wisconsin.

Canadian                    "Demand of western farmers for a 10 cent cash pay-  
Wheat                    ment on wheat delivered to the Canadian Wheat Board in  
Policy                    addition to the 70 cents guarantee, already paid by the  
                          government on the current crop, may come before the  
Cabinet for final decision," according to an Ottawa report to the Wall  
Street Journal (March 4). "Question has been brought to a head by a  
letter from Paul Bredt, president of the Canadian Cooperative Wheat  
Producers, Ltd., to Trade Minister Euler, urging that the extra payment  
be made under the War Measures Act which confers wide powers on the  
government in war time. Under the Wheat Board Act, there is no provision  
for making any payment beyond the 70 cents guarantee until all the crop  
has been sold. If at that time it develops that the government has made  
a profit on the whole crop, the money is divided among the farmers....."

California                The New York Times on March 4 printed the first of  
Migrants                a series of articles by Byron Darnton, dealing with con-  
                          ditions among the migratory workers in California. An  
early paragraph of the first article says: "Unless a miracle happens,  
these newcomers are bound to join their predecessors in rural slums, in  
ditch-bank camps, or in Federal migratory camps. Whatever dreams of  
work and plenty they may be carrying with them are destined to turn into  
bitter disappointment. For they are coming to a land which has little  
if any place for them in its farm economy, and for the most part they  
are not fitted by training and experience to become cogs in that farm  
economy....."

Machines                Two machines have been developed in the cotton  
Comb, Sort               laboratories of the Arkansas College of Agriculture  
Cotton                    during the past few years. Kenneth B. Roy, agricultural  
                          editor of the college, describes them in Southern Agri-  
culturist (March). "The first machine is the mechanical comber," he  
says. "This eliminates the human element to a large extent, gives all  
seed the same treatment, and may be operated by an untrained person.  
In hand combing only one seed is combed at a time, while in the mechan-  
ical comber 10 seed can be combed in one minute.....Some 20,000 10-seed  
samples from the college's experimental plots were combed on this  
machine last fall and winter. After the measurement of lint length, 8  
of the 10 seeds are selected and transferred to the sorter frames, and  
are then ready to be placed in the multiple sorter, the second machine  
developed by the laboratory. It utilizes 8 photoelectric cells. The  
basis upon which the sorter operates is the amount of light passing  
through the lint samples to the photo cells and recorded by the ammeter,  
readings of which are noted on a standardized form sheet....."



"Plant to  
Prosper"

"Sixteen additional newspapers in the Mid South have joined the Commercial Appeal and the Memphis Chamber of Commerce Agricultural Committee in sponsoring the 1940 Plant To Prosper Competition, bringing to 66 the number of dailies and weeklies now participating in the contest," says a report in the Memphis Commercial Appeal. "Meanwhile, the campaign to enroll 40,000 farmers of Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi and Missouri under the Plant To Prosper this year gained momentum. Farm Security Administration officials are busy with enrolments and a majority of FSA clients in the four states are expected to participate....."

Plastics

The fabrics that we wear in the days to come are likely to be "starched" with the new synthetic resins. Crystal clear, insoluble in soap and water, stable in dry cleaning solvents, these new resins or plastics contrast with the older finishing materials such as starches, oils, and softeners which are gone with the first laundering. Textiles can be made more resilient, or resistant to crushing and creasing. They can be made proof against slipping and fraying, or strengthened or stabilized. Some of the new fabrics are being finished with plastics, but many of the methods are so new that manufacturers are waiting to see how the consumer likes these novelties in fabrics. (Science News Letter, March 2.)

Sharecroppers

"If proof is needed for the fact that more is to be accomplished by anticipating a difficult situation than by allowing events to take their course, it may be found by contrasting last winter's roadside demonstration in Southeast Missouri with the program adopted recently for the assistance of the sharecroppers of the region," says an editorial in the St. Louis Post Dispatch. "Under the leadership of Gov. Stark, representatives of the croppers, the land owners, the State and the Farm Security Administration have worked out a five-point plan that promises to take care of those made homeless by eviction notices in Missouri's seven cotton counties. Briefly, the program provides for subsistence tracts and labor homes to be set up through the joint effort of the FSA and the land owners. The State employment service will seek work for these people during part of the year so that they will have some cash income. Too much credit cannot be given to those land owners who refrained from drastic action against their croppers while this plan was being developed....."

Articles

Articles of interest to the Department in the South African Journal of Economics (December) are: Agricultural Adjustment Policies in America, by J. M. Tinley; Agricultural Insurance in South Africa, by O. E. Burger; and Problems of Price Control, by R. H. Smith.



Farm-Built Electric Equipment      "There has been an increasing demand from farmers of limited means for information which will help them build their own electrical farm equipment," says Rural Electrification News (February). "Until recently, however, relatively little had been done toward making concrete information available on farm-built electric equipment. REA has recognized the growing demand for initiating the use of electricity on farms, preparing plans and specifications for a number of different types of home-built electric farm equipment. These instructions will be made available to vocational agriculture teachers through the publication of a special bulletin by the U. S. Office of Education. Superintendents of REA electric systems will also receive copies. This bulletin will explain the construction or assembly of a small electric chick brooder, electric pig brooder, electric hotbed, poultry water warmer, ultra-violet reflector for poultry houses, stock-tank water heater, room-cooling device and garden irrigator, a kitchen or attic exhaust fan, and how to make fractional-horsepower motors portable as well as how to make a motor-toter for larger-size motors.....An article on how to build electric hotbeds appears in this issue."

Grades for N. Y. Milk      "Dairymen throughout the country will be interested in the outcome of the controversy which is taking place in New York City in regard to the proposed establishment of a single grade of fresh bottled milk scheduled to go into effect next September," says an editorial in Dairy World (February). "There have been two grades since 1912, established by Health Department ruling. At present Grade B represents about 89 percent of the volume. Grade A with 11 percent requires special equipment and plants for producing and handling, for which many people are willing to pay three cents extra. About 5,000 producers are supplying the higher grade, for which they receive more than two cents a quart over the regular milk price. If the single grade is instituted, there is the prospect of increased prices for the large majority of consumers, while those who can afford and want to pay the higher price for extra-quality milk will pay less for their milk. Naturally such a revision of the retail price situation will result in decreased consumption, principally among families with restricted food budgets....."

Livestock on Farms      Large supplies of feed and favorable feeding ratios resulted in a 7.4 percent increase in the number of grain-consuming animal units on farms during 1939, the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has reported. Livestock numbers totaled 136.7 million animal units on January 1, 1940, compared with 127.3 million a year earlier.

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Section 1

March 6, 1940

## TRADE ACT TESTIMONY

The United States has granted more trade concessions, to the extent of duties or bindings on \$561,734,000 worth of foreign trade a year, than it has obtained from eighteen countries with which reciprocal trade agreements are now in effect, the Senate Finance Committee was told yesterday by Charles W. Holman, representing the National Cooperative Milk Producers Association. He filed with the committee a detailed analysis of 1938 official foreign-trade figures, compiled by research workers of his organization. (New York Times.)

The Senate Finance Committee also heard a charge yesterday that the State Department had broken faith with Congress when the excise tax on imported oil was reduced by 50 percent in a trade agreement with Venezuela. Russell B. Brown, general counsel of the Independent Petroleum Association, asserted that domestic oil producers were kept "completely in the dark" while the agreement was being negotiated and the right was denied to them to argue that the department had no authority to cut excise taxes. (A.P.)

## HATCH ACT EXTENSION

As the Senate began debate yesterday on a bill by Senator Hatch to extend the present prohibitions against "pernicious political activity" by federal job holders, President Roosevelt stated at a press conference that he endorsed the principles of the proposal, says a report in the New York Times. The Hatch act applies to federal job holders below the rank of policy-making officials. The extension would embrace equivalent state employees paid in whole or in part with federal funds, principally employees of states whose jobs depend on regular federal contributions to highway funds.

## BAI EXHIBIT

An exhibit of the work of the Bureau of Animal Industry was opened yesterday in the patio of the Administration Building. The exhibit, which will last until March 28, was prepared by the bureau in cooperation with the agricultural exhibits section of the Extension Service.

## DEPARTMENT GREENHOUSES

WPA workers began demolishing the Agriculture Department greenhouses in the Mall, one of the Capital's most familiar landmarks, yesterday, says a report in the Washington Post. As the laborers were leveling the antiquated conservatories, the ultra-modern greenhouses at Beltsville, which replaced them, were already abloom with carnations, cineraria and roses. Last fall some 30,000 plants were hauled to their new quarters at the horticultural station at Beltsville.



Conservation  
of Beauty

In an article on conservation and the landscape architect, in Northwest Science (February) Harold T. Abbott says he believes "conservation of beauty is an important function of government." He continues: "Most eastern states and some western states now have well established landscape departments with professionally trained men working in collaboration with highway engineers and architects in the interest of scientifically efficient roadside developments. It is acknowledged by the foremost highway designers that more desirable results would be obtained in the various states if the individual district offices had their own properly qualified landscape architects who have not only had training and experience in engineering but also in the designing of public areas for maximum use and beauty. A few additional dollars spent for proper planning in the office means conservation of our natural resources, maximum use of all developed lands, increased land valuations, reduced construction and maintenance costs, and considerably more opportunities for improving the general character of man's environment....."

Milk as  
Utility

Milk distribution as a public utility is discussed in the Journal of Land & Public Utility Economics (February) by W. P. Mortenson, professor of agricultural economics at the University of Wisconsin. In one of the concluding paragraphs he says: "So far the United States Supreme Court has not ruled upon the legality of a type of control in the milk business involving the exclusive franchise feature, although such rulings have been made in the accepted public utility fields. Court decisions to which one must look for precedents are not such as will provide a dependable indication of what position the Supreme Court may take on the question of the exclusive franchise feature of control of milk distribution. Nevertheless, there would seem to be sufficient legal support for the position that the legislatures have power either to grant exclusive franchise to a private corporation to process and distribute milk, or to delegate to the city or municipality the power to perform the function itself through municipal ownership. The outcome of the decision will depend largely upon the particular case brought before the Court and upon the philosophy of the majority of the Supreme Court members at the time the case appears for decision.

"In the final analysis it will doubtless turn mainly upon the question of whether costs of the inherent competitive wastes are serious enough so that, in the opinion of the Court, the public welfare of the people in a city will be improved through control and unification of the milk distribution system. If the Court favors a philosophy of increased social control in the interest of public welfare, it can with consistency reach a decision supporting a legislative act imposing control similar to that now in force over the more typical public utilities....."



Minnesota Rural Zones      "The recent enactment of a rural zoning enabling act by Minnesota is a landmark in the development of a new land policy for that state," say William F. Musbach, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, and Melville C. Williams, Office of the Solicitor, in the Journal of Land & Public Utility Economics (February). "....Unlike many acts, the Minnesota law is designed primarily for rural areas and does not expressly authorize counties to adopt urban or suburban types of regulations, such as those fixing setback lines, size and height of buildings, and percentage of lot occupied. Furthermore, only counties in which there are state or federal forests or state conservation areas possess the power to zone. This, in effect, confines the application of the act to the northern cut-over region. The scope of the zoning power is also limited in that a number of land uses are excepted from provisions of the act, including hunting and fishing cabins on privately owned lands, mines, quarries and gravel pits, hydro dams, private dams, flowage areas, transmission lines and substations, and the harvesting of any wild crop. Customarily, these exceptions are made in ordinances rather than in the enabling act..."

In the same periodical Kenneth Wernimont, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, reviews state rural land use legislation in 1939.

Drifting of Drones      "It has long been assumed that drones drift freely from one colony to another for long distances and the frequency with which young queens are mated in queen-rearing yards has seemed to sustain that assumption," says an editorial in the American Bee Journal (March). "Now comes C. G. Butler, of the Rothamsted Experimental Station, in a report in the December, 1939, Bee World, which throws doubt on this long-accepted view. In experiments several hundred drones were marked with quick drying cellulose enamel and returned to the hives from which they were taken. The drones from each hive were given a distinguishing color as red, blue, yellow, etc. It is very surprising to learn that although a careful watch was given from May until most of the drones were driven out in autumn, 'only on six occasions was a drone found to have drifted into another hive.' Drones taken to a considerable distance and released returned to the parent hive. When swarms emerged the marked drones often attached themselves to the swarm but otherwise remained constant to the home colony. Mr. Butler states that results are incomplete and that several years' observation under various conditions will be necessary to draw proper conclusions....."

Film News      The Association of Documentary Film Producers, with headquarters at New York City, has recently been organized, says Public Opinion Quarterly (March). It also reports that a new directory of government films has appeared. This may be obtained from the U. S. Film Service, Office of Education, Washington.

Senate Committee on Expenditures in Executive Departments reported with amendment H. R. 6693, to amend a law relating to the use of private vehicles for official travel, to effect economy and better administration. (S. Rept. 1262.)

Committee on Rules reported with amendment S. Res. 232, limiting debate on general appropriation bills.

S. 3046, to extend the Hatch Pernicious Political Activities Act to State employees, was made unfinished business.

House Bills passed: H. R. 8150, providing for barring March 4 claims against U.S. after 10 years; H. R. 8119, to amend the Criminal Code to confer concurrent jurisdiction on U.S. courts over crimes committed on certain Federal reservations; S. 2152, to protect scenic values along the Catalina Highway in the Coronado National Forest, Ariz. (this bill now goes to the President).

Committee on Appropriations reported H. R. 8745, Interior Department appropriation bill (H. Rept. 1709).

Received from the Secretary of Agriculture the annual report of F.C.A. for 1939 (H. Doc. 647).

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Truck Loads The rate of recovery of truck loadings in the Increase United States in 1939, according to the Department of Commerce survey of current business, appears to have exceeded that of railroad carloadings. Reports of the Interstate Commerce Commission on motor carriers for the first six months of 1939 indicate that the operating revenues of Class I intercity freight motor carriers were 30 percent more than the revenues in the first six months of 1938. Freight transported by these 640 carriers increased slightly more than 20 percent in the period and net income increased markedly. (New York Times.)

Improved Grain dealers everywhere are recognizing the Funigation dangers of using some of the hazardous fumigants used so effectively in the early days of insect extermination. The agitation of recent years has been so persistent that chemists have conducted many experiments in hope of perfecting more effective fumigants and many have obtained greatly improved results without the hazards to property and life common with the early fumigants. The use of hydrocyanic acid gas which has long been recognized as a powerful exterminator of grain infesting insects is now possible without danger to workers and without reducing its effectiveness in the extermination of the pests. (Grain & Feed Journals, February 23.)



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Section 1

March 7, 1940

T.N.E.C. SAYS "Business statesmanship" in maintaining a stable  
PRICES STABLE price level in the face of changed conditions caused by  
the European wars has helped to prevent business men from  
going through the kind of "boom and bust" conditions they went through  
in 1937, the Temporary National Economic Committee announced yesterday.  
In the seventh of its summaries of the price situation which President  
Roosevelt requested at the outbreak of the war, the committee observed  
that "in recent months business statesmanship has reached a new high."

"As the National Association of Manufacturers has so well stated,"  
it said, "one of the prerequisites of stable prosperity is 'prices of  
agricultural, industrial and commercial commodities having such a rela-  
tionship as will encourage sufficient buying and selling to provide  
steady employment for those able and willing to work.' In recent months  
that principle of price statesmanship has not only been precept but  
practice." (New York Times.)

FOREIGN TRADE Senator LaFollette introduced in the Senate yester-  
BOARD URGED day an amendment to the administration's resolution to  
extend the trade agreements act for three years. The meas-  
ure would provide for an export-import control board, composed of the  
Secretaries of State, Treasury, Interior, Agriculture and Commerce. Sena-  
tor LaFollette said he would try to induce the Finance Committee, of  
which he is a member, to adopt his proposal, but that if the committee  
refused he would offer his plan from the floor. (New York Times.)

SENATE BACKS The Senate yesterday turned down by a 3-vote margin  
HATCH ACT an effort to weaken the present Hatch Act by allowing  
federal office holders to engage in politics, says a re-  
port by a Washington Post staff writer. On the same vote, 41 to 44,  
the Senate disapproved an attempt to block extension of the politics  
ban to District, State and local employees paid from federal funds.

EXPORT CONTROL A telephone report from Ottawa to the New York Times  
IN CANADA says that further action to prevent goods shipped from  
Canada reaching Germany directly or indirectly was an-  
nounced yesterday from the office of the Prime Minister. Hereafter ex-  
ports from Canada to all European neutral nations except Ireland, Portu-  
gal and Turkey will required a permit from the Minister of National Revenue.  
Hitherto such control was applied only to exports to neutral countries con-  
tiguous to enemy-occupied territories.

USDA Range                    "Of tremendous economic importance to everyone  
Experiments                in the range cattle business in the west, and particu-  
                             larly to range men in California, is the scientific  
work being carried on at the San Joaquin Experimental Range," says an  
editorial in Western Livestock Journal (February 15). "The program is  
a cooperative arrangement between the U. S. Forest Service and the  
University of California. The experimental range work was initiated  
five years ago in order to obtain practical and scientific answers to  
many range problems. Cooperating with the University and the Forest  
Service is an advisory board made up of representatives of the  
California Cattlemen's Association, California Farm Bureau, and county  
agents. The advice of these men is sought by the scientists in charge  
of the program so that everything may be conducted along the most  
practical lines.....

"Five years ago the government purchased 4400 acres of land that  
was picked because it was considered poor range. Yet rains have come  
at opportune times, the grass has been good and the original herd of  
90 bred Hereford heifers has multiplied and developed on a profitable  
basis.....Dr. George Hart, head of the animal husbandry division at  
the University of California at Davis, told his advisory committee  
that work is now being advanced on a bulletin that will graphically  
and completely relate the results of the first five years on the ex-  
perimental range. He admitted that many apparent results at the sta-  
tion must not be taken for granted, as it will take several more years  
before the scientists have sufficient information to make definite  
statements....."

Drug Sale                    "A man who earlier had experienced no difficulty  
Regulation                in buying sulfanilamide whenever he needed it was re-  
                             cently surprised to find that he now required a pre-  
scription," says an editorial in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry  
(March). "Regulation of the sale and use of potent drugs is an in-  
valuable necessity. Agents so powerful as cincophen, amidopyrine,  
sulfanilamide, and their derivatives are boons to the suffering when  
properly used, but perilously destructive in unskilled hands. The  
danger in regulation under the American system is the possibility that  
as many as forty-nine different sets of rules may be set up by federal  
authorities and the forty-eight states.....

"Representatives from those states which have recently passed new  
laws patterned after the federal act sent conferees to Washington in  
an effort to secure uniformity in regulations among themselves. This  
is the surest way to safeguard the public interest and to ensure that  
needed remedies will be available when and where needed. With potent  
medicines policing must be done through physicians and pharmacists by  
cooperation of governmental agencies, both state and national. A good  
job has been well started by California, Connecticut, Florida, Indiana,  
Nevada, New Jersey, New York, and North Carolina....."



Refugees in U.S. Science      In the leading article in Science (March 1) C. A. Browne, Bureau of Agricultural Chemistry and Engineering, writes on the role of refugees in the history of American science. He describes typical illustrations of scientists who fled to America in the disturbances of the seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and goes on to say: "Conditions now are vastly different from those existing ninety years ago. The frontiers now have all been occupied and openings for employment are so few that immigration, once unchecked, has had to be curtailed.

"The advantages of scientific and technological superiority, once held by the Europeans, no longer exist and foreigners have not the opportunities to make themselves useful that were enjoyed by refugees two and three generations ago. A detailed statistical study of the race, age, occupation, religion and other available data pertaining to refugees who fled to America in previous migrations, with brief accounts of their successes and failures, would no doubt help clarify certain problems concerning the large number of exiles who have been banished from Germany since the adoption of the present national socialistic system..."

Storage of Flour      "What is termed 'bulk storage' of flour has entered the flour milling business in the last two years, originating on the Pacific Coast," says Food Industries (March).

"Bulk storage permits running the mills for 24 hours a day, storing the flour in huge tanks and packing for only 8 hours a day. Storage of the bulk flour is only for periods up to 30 days--not for prolonged periods. The idea is that instead of blending wheats before grinding to obtain a flour of specified characteristics, which often change from customer to customer, and then packing it, the mill grinds the wheat separately on long runs, stores in tanks and blends appropriate flours when an order arrives.

"Back of the innovation lies an economic reason. During recent years it has been pretty much a buyers' market, and buyers--especially foreign buyers--have been withholding not only shipping instructions and container specifications, but blend specifications as well, until a very short time before the ship to be loaded had docked on the American shore. Under previous practice the mill was sometimes forced to unpack previously filled containers in order to make prompt deliveries, but bulk storage avoids all that. According to recent information, the new bulk storage method of operating, which was created to meet a distribution problem, gives a noticeable improvement in operating costs."

Membership in A.A.A.S.      The secretary of the A.A.A.S., F. R. Moulton, in a note in Science (March 1) says that there was a very rapid increase in membership of the association during the decade 1920-1929, a substantial decline during the worst years of the depression and a substantial increase during the past three years. "In the latest edition of American Men of Science," he says, "the names of about 28,000 scientists are listed; there are probably 100,000 persons engaged in scientific work in this country."

March 7, 1940

House                      Began general debate on H.R. 8746, Interior Department appropriation bill. Mr. Johnson stated that there will probably be a supplemental estimate for water conservation and utilization projects.

(From Office of Budget and Finance.)

Technological              "Farmers know that industrial employment--or the lack of it--has much to do with the price of agricultural products," says an editorial in the Bismark Tribune.

Unemployment              "They also know that manufacturing processes are continually being improved and they expect that these developments will be reflected in lower prices of the things they buy. But few of them, apparently, give thought to the manner in which better agricultural implements and improved processes are contributing to unemployment on the farm...

"The fact that agricultural production is more efficient now than formerly eventually is going to force a change in the parity figures of which so much mention is made. If the automobile industry were to demand parity on the basis of 1920 methods and prices, every farmer would argue that it was silly. This is no less true of agriculture which has shared, along with other industry, in the generally increased efficiency. Had the methods of 1920 been used to harvest North Dakota's wheat crop in 1939 there would have been a shortage of labor in this area. As it was the crop was harvested quickly, without difficulty and without much extra labor."

Pan-American              "One of the most exciting and promising proposals for closer economic collaboration with Latin America is in danger of being stalled by Congressional apathy--or economy," says Ernest K. Lindley in the Washington Post.

Collaboration              "This is the plan, envisaged by the Department of Agriculture, for stimulating the production in Latin America of the tropical and semi-tropical plant products which we need but do not produce ourselves. Sixteen of the twenty Latin American republics are tropical or semi-tropical. Our agricultural experts believe that with the aid of research, technical guidance and help on the organizing side, these countries could produce a large part of our needs for quinine, insecticidal and medicinal plants, tropical fibers and even rubber.

"Now we are dependent on the Far East chiefly for these products. Henry Wallace argues that if we are serious about hemisphere solidarity we will encourage the production of these articles by our neighbors to the south...We send about \$200,000,000 to the Far East for rubber, which comes from a plant native to South America. The Dutch and British took the rubber plant, improved it and now supply the world. Secretary Wallace has asserted that by using scientific methods it undoubtedly would be possible to develop in Latin America strains of rubber plants which are high yielding and also resistant to the leaf-spot disease which now plagues the native rubber plant of South America...One of Wallace's ambitions is to establish an Inter-American Institute of Tropical Agriculture, located probably in a Central American country..."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVI, No. 48

Section 1

March 8, 1940

## MIGRATORY WORKERS' PROBLEMS

Four past or present executives of federal or state agencies or organizations that are seeking a solution of the problems of the migratory workers who have poured into California by the hundreds of thousands during the last few years discussed the situation for a national radio audience last night, says a report in the New York Times. They were agreed on one point, that it is a national problem and that something must be done.

The speakers were Philip Bancroft, of the executive committee of the Associated Farmers of California; Hugh H. Bennett, Chief of the Soil Conservation Service; Carey McWilliams, Chief of the California Division of Immigration and Housing and author of the book "Factories in the Field"; and Rexford G. Tugwell, former director of the Resettlement Administration and now New York City Planning Commissioner. They spoke on the Town Hall of the Air program.

The Times also says that the California delegation in the House sent a petition yesterday to the Rules Committee for a hearing on a resolution by Representative John H. Tolan, to investigate "the interstate migration of destitute citizens, and to study, survey and investigate the social and economic needs, and the movement of indigent persons across state lines."

## COTTON FOR STAMPS, BAGS, TO SPAIN

Retailers will be asked to indicate that the cotton products sold under the cotton stamp plan are made of American cotton, Milo R. Perkins, president of the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation, yesterday told a special meeting of the cotton goods industry, buyers and retailers. He said the plan would go into effect shortly, but the specific cities in which it will be launched have not yet been chosen. (New York Times.)

The Cotton Textile Institute announced recently that a new field of cotton consumption has been opened by experimental use of cotton bags for fertilizer. A carload of sulphate of ammonia packed in cotton bags has just reached Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and inspection made for the institute "shows that the bags as well as the material were in good condition." This is one of the first trade experiments with cotton bags for that purpose, the institute said. (A.P.)

Jesse H. Jones, Federal Loan Administrator, said yesterday that Spain had been purchasing about 25,000 bales of cotton monthly in this country with a \$14,000,000 credit. To date Spain has purchased about 175,000 bales, he said. (A.P.)

E. G. Moss                      The Southern Planter (March) says editorially  
Honored                      that E. G. Moss, in charge of the tobacco experiment  
                                 station at Oxford, N. C. (cooperatively with the Depart-  
ment) was awarded a medallion for "distinguished service to agricul-  
ture" at the recent meeting of the Association of Agricultural Workers.  
"Mr. Moss' service came as a result of his contribution to the knowl-  
edge of tobacco fertilization," says the periodical, "and particularly,  
the role magnesium plays in the prevention of 'sand drown' in bright  
tobacco; a soil deficiency disease that cost flue-cured tobacco  
growers millions of dollars annually before the cause and cure were  
developed. This discovery has had a revolutionary effect on the  
fertilizer industry, bringing about the use of dolomitic limestone  
as the carrier for mixed goods. It opened up the now important  
field of minor element nutrition in plants."

Simplified                      "Research scientists are probably doing more than  
Language                      any one else to advance the right kind of help for  
                                 farmers both along production and marketing lines,"  
says E. R. Eastman, editor of American Agriculturist, in the March 2  
issue. "But scientific progress would be faster if the scientists  
would stop trying to be highbrow, particularly in the use of names.  
...Before me as I write this is an article written by a scientist  
on spraying. He talks about 'two new organic contact insecticides,  
di-nitro-ortho-cyclo-phenol and ortho-dinitro-cresol;' he mentions  
cryolite and bentonite. The language in which he described these  
incomprehensible names is stilted, and filled with long adjectives.  
Here is an honest plea to the farmers' best friends, the research  
scientists, and the agricultural teachers, to talk Abraham Lincoln's  
United States language!"

Conservation                      What is more tragic than the steady wear and  
of Soil on                      tear on the soil of our rented farms? asks the  
Rented Farms                      Farmer-Stockman (March 1) and continues in an  
                                 editorial: "This is special to those of our readers  
who own rented farms. Can't you, and won't you, do something this  
year to start the job of soil building on your farm or farms? Make  
at least one final appeal to your renter for cooperation. Work  
with him to build some terraces. At least start the job with one  
well-built terrace at the top of the hill. Pay him for building  
that first terrace. Help him to get the job done exactly right.  
"Pay him on an acre basis to grow one or two acres of some  
legume. Pay him to plow under the entire growth. If the renter  
stays on the farm another year, let him farm that acre in comparison  
with other land and note the increased yield. If you have a new  
tenant in 1941, explain what was done and point out that acre. Ask  
him to keep his eye on the crop. A duty rests on you as the owner  
of land to preserve it for posterity. We and those who follow must  
live from what we now have...."



Diet in  
Allergy  
to Food

The Journal of the American Dietetic Association (March) prints a paper on diets in the diagnosis and treatment of food allergy, by Albert H. Rowe, M.D.

He says in the concluding paragraphs: "The realization that food allergy may affect any tissue in the body, being a common cause of nasal and sinus allergy, bronchial asthma and allergic bronchitis, migraine and recurrent headaches, gastro-intestinal symptomatology beginning with canker sores and other oral lesions, including gastric and intestinal disturbances and mucous colitis, constipation, and pruritus ani, urticaria, angioneurotic edema, and atopic dermatitis (eczema), and less frequent urogenital and ocular manifestations, is becoming more appreciated by the medical profession.

"Thus the dietitian will be asked with increasing frequency to prepare diets which exclude allergenic foods and to arrange menus for various trial diets during the diagnostic study of the patient. For such trial diet, the use of elimination diets constitutes a standardized and logical method which has been generally used in the last decade. With a more definite understanding of the principles involved in the ordering of such elimination diets and of the requisite care and skill with which such diets must be prepared as described above, dietitians will do much to meet the challenge which food allergy presents to the medical profession."

Southern  
Pulp Mills

Writing on the permanence of southern pulp mills, in Manufacturers Record (March), A. W. Wackerman, School of Forestry of Duke University, says in part:

"Perhaps offering more promise of achieving actual material results at an early date than the other fields of activity is the policy of forest ownership by pulp companies and the placing of the company-owned forest lands under the management or supervision of technically trained foresters for the permanent production of timber crops. This policy is partly to protect large investments in pulp and paper plants from unduly large depreciation charges; and partly because the industry actually wants to stay in the South and establish permanent operations rather than move again in 20 years to South America, Siberia, or some other remote region for another temporary period of exploitation. The pulp industry has matured and is, at least in the South, assuming the responsibilities of forest ownership and has settled down to permanence with no fears of the future so far as timber supplies are concerned."

Xmas Tree  
By-Products

Even the Christmas tree has its by-products. As the result of the development of unusual products by Maine's Experiment Station, balsam-needle oil will probably be manufactured in Maine communities. Suggested uses: scenting of soap, bath salts and bath oils, in paint and varnish as combined thinner and perfume, in air conditioning equipment to impart outdoor freshness to the atmospheres of department stores, theaters, homes. (Science News Letter, March 9.)

Senate Committee on Foreign Relations reported with amendments S.J.Res. 200, to provide for additional federal participation in the Golden Gate International Exposition in 1940 (S.Rept. 1266).  
March 6

House Committee on Agriculture reported without amendment H.R. 8642, to establish standard methods of grading cottonseed, to provide for information on prices and grades of cottonseed and cottonseed products, etc. (H.Rept. 1713).  
March 6

Received from the Secretary of the Interior the annual report of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission for 1939 (H.Doc. 651).

(From Office of Budget and Finance.)

REA Self "REA's first complete self help project, in which  
Help Plan farmers are earning money for house wiring and appliances by helping to construct their own electric distribution lines, is now well under way as a result of allotments totaling \$195,000 to the North Arkansas Electric Corporation," says Rural Electrification News (February). "The main feature of this self help project, set up to suit an area of low income but of a high degree of energy in working for electric service, is that the members of the cooperative will participate in actual construction of a 205-mile system, using their wages to help pay for house wiring, appliances and fixtures.

"All members of the cooperative who want to work on construction of the electric lines register with the labor committee of the cooperative. They dig holes, set poles, clear right-of-way, trim trees and drive trucks for the poleline construction contractor. These farmer members are paid for the actual unit of work done, rather than on a per diem or per hour basis. When a member has earned \$30 through his labor participation he may use it to help wire his home or buy appliances. If this money is insufficient, he may borrow the balance from the cooperative fund of \$25,000 set up for the purpose. Or he may be given the opportunity of earning more than \$30 if there is need for additional labor...

"Over 600 members have paid their membership fees, signed contracts to wire their homes and granted easements. As a result of a preliminary sales campaign, they have agreed to purchase 88 refrigerators, 74 washing machines, 181 radios, 162 irons. By placing large orders at one time through the cooperative the members will receive reduced prices on these appliances..."

Courses in A standing committee on conservation has been established by the Minnesota Education Association. This fundamental question is one that must be incorporated in school work in one way or another, either by integration in present studies, by addition as a separate course of study, or in the popular science courses. Emphasis in teacher training schools is, of course, of primary importance. (Nature Magazine, March.)  
Conservation



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Vol. LXXVI, No. 49

Section 1

March 11, 1940

BILL WOULD  
RELIEVE  
UNEMPLOYMENT

Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney announced yesterday that he would introduce a bill today designed to relieve unemployment by rewarding employers who provide jobs by giving them a credit on their tax payments.

The purpose, he declared, was to "balance men and machines" by rewarding employers whose output was obtained by more than an average use of man power, and by requiring a contribution from those whose production was obtained by a more than average use of machines.

The bill was tentative in form, he said, with no specific rates provided, but he would ask a speedy hearing before the House Ways and Means Committee with the hope it would write in the rates. The addition of farm benefits to the Agriculture Department bill Saturday by the Senate Appropriations Committee was cited by Senator O'Mahoney as indicating that farm relief and unemployment were bound together. Such appropriations were needed, he said, because the unemployed could not buy farm products and the farmers could not get their cost of production when there was a surplus of crops. (New York Times.)

A report in the Times this morning says the Senate is expected to adopt the increases to the Agriculture Department supply bill after it lays aside the Hatch "clean politics" bill today. This action seemed certain since its opponents appeared to have successfully threatened a filibuster unless a vote was postponed.

HOSPITALS IN  
RURAL AREAS

As a result of President Roosevelt's proposal a month ago that 50 small hospitals be built in rural communities, the Public Health Service has received 438 requests for such hospitals, says S. J. McDonough, A.P. science writer. The requests have come from doctors, public health officers, laymen, service groups and communities. Public health officers throughout the country, polled by Surgeon General Parran, recommended the building of 239 general hospitals providing 14,400 beds and 99 tuberculosis hospitals providing 16,229 beds.

Dr. Parran declared in an interview this week-end that the number of requests made to date indicated that the President's recommendations were "extremely conservative." "Public Health Service experts have designed 80-bed hospitals, to be built with local materials and WPA labor, which would not cost more than \$100,000 each," he said. Five bills now awaiting action by Congress would authorize the Public Health Service, after study of local needs, to allocate funds for the building of hospitals and for equipping them.

Resin for Plants                      Ordinary resin will make plants grow faster and pre-serve the food and humus in the soil against attack by microorganisms, according to a patent (No. 2,187,532) awarded to Martin Leatherman, United States Department of Agriculture research worker. Only three-tenths of one percent of resin need be mixed in with the soil. The resin, it is stated, is particularly effective when incorporated in high organic greenhouse soil. Here it retards the growth of bacteria which ordinarily destroy the humus and foods in the soil. Besides resin alone, metallic compounds of resin may be used effectively. The inventor dedicates his invention to the free use of the people of the United States. (Science Digest, April.)

New Dairy Association              In an effort to stimulate greater consumption of all dairy products, representatives of eight national dairy organizations and others from ten states, in a meeting recently at St. Paul, formed the American Dairy Association. The purpose of the new association is to promote the consumption of milk, butter, ice cream, cheese and other dairy products; to conduct or promote research on dairy products. The association was organized on memberships based on state representation and will operate on a non-profit basis. Non-voting, associate memberships have been provided for state departments of agriculture, state dairy and food departments, dairy divisions of state universities and the Bureau of Dairy Industry of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. (American Butter Review, Feb.)

N.Y. Produce Terminal              "The campaign to build a new fruit and produce terminal with RFC loans in New York City is proceeding at a snail's pace," says Farm Journal and Farmer's Wife (March). "Government economists made a bid for support of big shippers when they met with representatives of Florida and California citrus growers, Georgia peachmen, Texas produce growers and officials of the Interstate Commerce Commission in New York City in February. Supporters believe that the new terminal will save from \$7,000,000-\$9,000,000 in distribution costs yearly."

Flax Chaffer for Farmers              "Flax farmers of California are watching with interest recent demonstrations of a farm-sized flax chaffer by Waldo Weeth at his farms," says Cora L. Keagle, in California Cultivator (February 24). "Mr. Weeth's name has been closely associated with the flax industry since as a member of the Extension Service he pioneered in growing flax in the Imperial Valley. Now as one of the large flax growers of the west side district, he has been responsible for many improvements in flax harvesting machinery and for improved methods of production..."

"The new flax chaffer is only 8 feet long, 42 inches high and 12 inches wide and is run by a 1 1/2 h.p. motor. Tests have shown the new chaffer will take flax seed containing 32 percent of chaff and turn it out 98 percent clean. In 20 minutes it turned out 965 pounds of cleaned seed. At this rate it should clean a ton an hour..."



Science in  
Sociology

"In an outstandingly notable discussion of 'The Scientist in an Unscientific Society,' published in our June 1934 issue, Secretary of Agriculture Wallace raised a question which since then has been the subject of a great deal of debate in scientific circles," says an editorial in Scientific American (March). "The question was 'whether science, having demonstrated its power to transform the world, ought not have some responsibility, or at the very least, some interest in the social consequences of its handiwork'...Science, according to Mr. Wallace, proceeds without moral obligation, and is neither moral nor immoral. 'I should like to find our more articulate scientists,' he says, 'insisting that the benefactions of science be used only in ways that are plainly in the general welfare. The orthodox scientist either withdraws to his cloister, to mutter about the stupidity of mankind or, if given to public utterance, to indulge in an amazingly unscientific statement of a variety habitually used by the politicians he scorns'..."

"From one of our readers, Mr. Arthur Jobson, has come a letter, which, though not so intended, constitutes essentially an editorial reply to these arguments. 'Nearly six years have passed since Secretary Wallace's challenge to the scientist,' he writes, 'and, while this time is brief compared with the slow processes of social evolution, there has been time for the matter to ripen somewhat in our minds... It is of course galling to think of the great advancement we have made in science, invention and engineering while we have made so sorry a mess of our economic life, but these critics seem to forget that in matters dealing with a social system we are confronted with the vagaries of humanity, entirely remote from the scientific approach...No government can rise higher than its source. So long as this source is contaminated by human traits, we must expect the social body to suffer. The man trained in science, in endeavoring to correct this situation, would find most of his efforts of little avail, for he is vastly outnumbered by the rest of the population'..."

"Blotting"

Concrete

The U.S. Reclamation Bureau engineers have perfected a new, inexpensive method of hardening concrete surfaces, which compacts the concrete and avoids the forming of "voids" within it, says a Denver report by Science Service. They use "blotting" paper. To improve the surface of the spillways of its giant dams, over which billions of gallons of water glide yearly, government engineers tried a highly absorbent wall fiber board. They found the paper, unrolled on the spillway concrete while it was still soft, drew out excess moisture and allowed air bubbles to escape from the drying mixture. The concrete dries more evenly, the fiber board remaining moist and protecting the surface. The resulting spillway surfaces were satin-smooth. Tests indicated that the concrete was unusually hard and wear resistant. The new process was reported by C. O. Crane, of the bureau, to the Colorado Engineers Society.

Senate Continued debate on the Hatch Act. The following  
Mar. 7 amendments were agreed to: by Mr. Danaher, providing for appeals to the courts from decisions of the Civil Service Commission as to political activities of employees; by Mr. O'Mahoney, "to remove the penalty which the bill now provides upon the state itself... and to confine the penalty to the person...who has violated the law." The following amendment was rejected: by Mr. Adams, amending the act so as to prohibit officers from trying to influence the political action of subordinates.

House Passed H.R. 8745, Interior Department appropriation  
Mar. 7 bill.

The Smith Committee investigating the N.L.R.B. submitted its report, which recommends that "agricultural labor" be defined in the same way as in the Social Security Act.

Adjourned until Monday.

Senate Agreed to the following amendments to the Hatch Act:  
Mar. 8 by Mr. Johnson of Colo., making civil service department heads in state or local governments subject to the bill; by Mr. Clark of Mo., striking out the provision which would except from the bill state officers appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate who determine state-wide policies; by Mr. Clark of Mo., making appointed department heads subject to the bill.

Committee on Appropriations reported with amendments H.R. 8641, first deficiency appropriation bill (S.Rept. 1296). As reported, this bill contains the following items for this Department: fighting forest fires, \$3,550,000; insect and plant disease control, \$3,000,000 (\$1,000,000 increase); federal seed act, \$10,000; AAA payments, \$60,000,000.

Committee on Finance reported without amendment H.J.Res. 407, to extend for three years from June 12, 1940, the President's authority to enter into reciprocal trade agreements (S.Rept. 1297).

(From Office of Budget and Finance.)

Veterinary "An example of practical cooperation is the new  
Co-op Service agreement between FSA clients and Alabama veterinarians, believe M. H. Pearson, state director of FSA, and Dr. I. S. McAdory, dean of the Veterinary College," says the Progressive Farmer (March, Ga.-Ala.-Fla. ed.). "Now in effect in 56 counties, the agreement involves 45 veterinarians and 19,000 FSA clients. The plan was developed under the direction of M. E. Tisdale and G. H. Deffke of the FSA and Dr. J. H. Ryland, president of the Alabama Veterinary Association last year...Each FSA client in a county pays a stipulated annual fee. These fees are pooled and go to the veterinary in monthly payments...B. N. Ivey, FSA supervisor in Dallas, reports: 'Clients received much benefit from the services last year through a reduction in loss of livestock at a price within their means. In several instances, severe outbreaks of cholera were prevented by having the client's hogs immunized after cholera was found in the community'..."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVI, No. 50

Section 1

March 12, 1940

## FUNDS FOR FARM AID

The question of additional taxes to finance enlarged benefits for farmers was discussed at a White House conference yesterday between President Roosevelt and congressional leaders, says an A.P. report. Senate Majority Leader Barkley said the question came up in a "general way" at the regular Monday morning parley of Senate and House leaders at the White House. The President repeatedly has reminded Congress that any appropriations for farm payments beyond his budget should be accompanied by extra revenue. (See figures under Senate, page 4.)

## RAMSPECK BILL AMENDMENT

"The Civil Service Commission yesterday came out against the House amendment to the Ramspeck civil service bill that would prohibit extension of the merit system to employees from Washington, Maryland, Virginia and fourteen other states, because these areas are above their job quotas," says J. A. O'Leary in the Washington Star. "In a report to Chairman Bulow of the Senate Civil Service Committee, the committee declared the ban 'is not administratively feasible'..."

## AZALEA EXHIBIT

The United States Botanic Garden announced yesterday that the azalea show, in the conservatories on Maryland Avenue, between First and Second Streets Southwest (Washington) will be open to the public between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. today, Wednesday and Thursday. Beginning March 15, it will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., including Saturday and Sunday, until after Easter. (Washington Post.)

## LOWER CITRUS PRODUCTION

The Department of Agriculture reported yesterday that indicated production of all citrus fruits this year is lower than the yield in 1938. The orange crop is forecast at 70,390,000 boxes, against a record production of 78,863,000 last year. The 1937-38 figure was 74,785,000 boxes. Grapefruit production for the current marketing season is set at 30,800,000 boxes, against last season's record production of 43,714,000 and the previous year's crop of 31,093,000 boxes. (A.P.).

**Long-Time** "Texas farmers earned nearly four million dollars  
**AAA Benefits** for soil-building practices under the AAA in 1938, according to E. N. Holmgreen, state AAA administrator; but they failed to earn two million dollars more that was available," says an editorial in Farm and Ranch (March). "The payments for terracing, green manure crops, legume and grass planting are not large, and it appears that many have taken the attitude that there should be an immediate and direct cash profit for soil-building practices, else they 'won't play.' Instead of thinking only of the cotton or wheat allotment, and how little one can get by with to 'comply,' it would be a mighty good idea this year to sit down with the local administrator and learn how many other things can be done to get all the immediate benefits possible from the program including soil-building practices. After all, the long view is the best view, and the greatest profit in soil building will be reaped, not in the modest payment under AAA, but in the higher yields of the future. There is not a farm in Texas or the Southwest that cannot enhance the productivity of its soil by systematically following some of the known and approved practices for which a cash allowance is made under the AAA."

**Agrarian** The first issue of the International Journal of  
**Journal** Agrarian Affairs has recently been published, reports Nature (London, January 27). "Two numbers will be brought out each year," it says, "the intention being to develop a series of studies on economic and social problems, one problem being dealt with at a time. The Journal will therefore serve as a complement rather than an addition to the statistical yearbooks of agricultural information which are already available. The topics will be those common to all countries. The first number deals with the problem of surplus agricultural population. Contributions are made from such widely different localities as Harvard, Edinburg, Washington, Quebec, Sofia and Riga. Though not the official organ of the International Conference of Agricultural Economists, the Journal will be issued free to members. For non-members the price is 3 shillings, sixpence, or 1 pound per volume of six numbers (including postage). Address the Editor, 3 Magpie Lane, Oxford."

**Civil Service** The United States Civil Service Commission has  
**Examinations** announced the following examinations: No. 23; unassembled, Associate Entomologist (Taxonomy), \$3,200 (for filling the position of Assistant Curator, National Museum, Smithsonian Institution), Assistant Entomologist (Taxonomy), \$2,600, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine; No. 22; unassembled, Senior Inspector, Engineering Materials (Mechanical), \$2,600, Senior Inspector, Engineering Materials (Hulls), \$2,600, Inspector, Engineering Materials (Mechanical), \$2,000, Inspector, Engineering Materials (Hulls), \$2,000, Navy Department (for duty in the field wherever assigned). Applications must be on file not later than the



following dates: (a) April 8, if received from States other than those named in (b); (b) April 11, if received from the following States: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

**AMA Council on Foods**                      The American Medical Association has recently published a book, *Accepted Foods and Their Nutritional Significance*, says the *Northwestern Miller* (March 6), with the ratings of its Council on Foods. "The book describes the products which were on the accepted list on September 1, 1939," says the publication. "It is anticipated that revisions will be needed from time to time, 'in the light of newer knowledge' and to include subsequent listings. Rules and regulations of the council and general decisions pertaining to food composition and nutritional claim which may appear in advertising of food products are given a place in the book.....Hitherto the council, which is composed of a group of doctors and scientists, has addressed itself chiefly to members of the medical profession. The approach now is in layman's language, and is to 'mothers of growing children, nutritionists, teachers, dietitians and others interested in such work.' The book lists 3,800 brands which have won the council's approval....."

**"Squab Chickens"**                      The Michigan Experiment Station, in working out a profitable way of using cockerels, has studied squab chicken production. "Birds weighing 1 to 1 1/4 pounds are about the smallest that can be marketed successfully," say four workers of the station in the *Michigan Farmer* (March 2). "These squab chickens have appeared on the market occasionally. Attempts to sell them have not always been successful, because they are usually served split in halves, giving too small a portion, or boned, making them too expensive. Complaints that the meat does not have enough flavor have been made. These objections have been met by serving the birds whole and flavoring them well. They have been served at several banquets and were very popular....."

"The squab chickens must be cooked in such a way that they are attractive and taste good. The birds may be stuffed and those that have been skinned, dipped in egg and crumbs. They are cooked in a steamer for one-half hour, after which they may be roasted in a hot oven (450° F.) for 15 minutes, fried in deep fat 6 minutes to a deep golden brown, or baked uncovered in a casserole with vegetables and gravy for 10 minutes.....A highly seasoned stuffing is desirable since it makes the dish more substantial and improves the flavor of the meat. Sage, onions, parsley, nuts and mushrooms are good additions to a stuffing containing considerable fat and little or no liquid. Melted chicken fat may be used instead of butter in the dressing and gives it more nearly the flavor of a mature bird....."



Senate Committee on Appropriations reported with amend-  
March 9 ments H. R. 8202, agricultural appropriation bill.  
(S. Rept. 1299.) The amount of the bill as reported to the Senate is \$922,864,668, which is \$208,968,584 more than the House bill, \$201,940,049 more than the 1941 Budget estimates, and \$262,250,647 less than the 1940 appropriations. The largest increases were \$212,000,000 for parity payments and \$85,000,000 for disposal of surplus commodities.

The House was not in session.

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Cosmetic "The physicians of the community cannot fail to  
Ingredients have an increased interest in cosmetic ingredients, as the United States Department of Agriculture has assumed jurisdiction over interstate traffic in foods, drugs, and cosmetics," says an editorial in Medical Record (March 6). "The seizure of lipsticks on the ground that the coloring contained poisonous material led to wide newspaper notice....Physicians who have not been called upon to investigate the ingredients of cosmetics in their practice may be asked questions by their patients. They may also be called upon by local health officials for opinion regarding state or city laws along the lines of federal legislation. Goodman's compilation will prove helpful under these circumstances. He has collected the names of drugs or groups of drugs which have been banned or presented for such action by health department officials. The list is far from complete, on either the positive or the negative side....It will be noted that no mention is made of ingredients said to cause allergic reactions when included in cosmetics. The Federal Trade Commission has ruled in effect that reference in advertising to nonallergic cosmetics or the names of cosmetic lines is undesirable."

Frozen Food "With a possible prospect of over a billion pounds  
Packaging of quick frozen foods being processed during 1940 (this is only a rough estimate, but considered conservative by some), new vistas unfold themselves to manufacturers of packaging and packaging machinery," says an editorial in Quick Frozen Foods (February). "Most intelligent packaging men know that the answer to the perfectly satisfactory package has not yet been found, although many suitable packages and containers are today available. Nevertheless, research is going forward apace. Most efforts are being expended upon developing a better inner-liner or bag, and several new announcements are expected this spring. Fiberboard can developments are still in the test tube stage. The industry's standard container is still a rectangular waxed carton of a 12, 14, or 16 ounce capacity. Principal papers are still cellophane, wax paper, and vegetable parchment. Perhaps the most marked advance in packaging from a merchandising viewpoint during the past year has been the growing prominence of the window faced package, whose growth has paralleled that of the display case....."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVI, No. 51

Section 1

March 13, 1940

## FARM CREDIT TESTIMONY

Revision of the farm credit system would give the Secretary of Agriculture a "terrific political lever," Representative Pace of Georgia told the House Agriculture Committee yesterday. Pace raised the question of political pressure on farmers in hearings on a bill which would lower federal farm loan interest rates and retire capital stock in the land banks.

Governor Black of the Farm Credit Administration, who testified before the committee, indicated he believed such fears groundless. He said a provision in the bill calling for use of "productive value" as a basis for appraising refinanced farms would leave the way open for other considerations in making sound appraisals. Black made clear he was speaking neither for nor against the bill. (Washington Post.)

## SOYBEAN OIL FUTURES

The New York Produce Exchange announced yesterday that it would establish a futures market for trading in soybean oil. A contract will consist of 60,000 pounds of oil delivered in New York on an f.o.b. bonded warehouse basis. "Because of the phenomenal growth of soybean and soybean oil production in the United States," the exchange said, "it has been decided to establish a futures market for prime crude soybean oil." (New York Times.)

## WINTER WHEAT INSURANCE

Adjustment of early losses suffered by winter-wheat farmers who have insured their 1940 crop will begin soon, the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation announced yesterday. The adjustment of losses in 1940 will be handled in the same manner as in 1939, with state and county AAA committees responsible for inspection of damaged or destroyed fields and determination of the amount of loss. An important improvement in the 1940 procedure, according to corporation manager Leroy K. Smith, is an option under which a grower may request a deferred settlement (as might be the case in a rising market) and request payment on notice at any time within 90 days. In such cases the cash value will be computed on the basis of the price in effect the day the notice is received by the corporation.

## WHEAT SUBSIDY

The Department of Agriculture announced yesterday that its wheat export subsidy would be extended to include shipments of wheat from the Pacific Coast to European destinations, as well as to the Philippine Islands, Hong Kong and China. (Press.)

Railroad                      The Illinois Central has announced an experiment  
to Reduce                      designed to reduce less-than-carload rates, according  
LCL Rates                      to Business Week (March 9). "The method, effective  
March 19, will be confined at first to the trade areas  
served by Memphis, Tenn., Jackson, Miss., and Meridian, Miss.," it  
says. "The shipper will send his mixed carload exactly as before to  
the break-bulk point. There, however, the railroad's freight-house  
handlers will unload it for him at no extra cost, and then forward  
at the fourth-class l.c.l. rate any of the car's contents which move  
by rail within 48 hours. The railroad's store-door delivery makes the  
service equivalent to motor truckers', and the fourth class rate is  
just about on the level of motor truck rates. Continuous movement  
within 48 hours is required to make the rate easier to police. The  
shipper will have to indorse on his l.c.l. bills of lading the number  
of the car in which it reached the break-bulk point. If he prefers,  
he can prepare the l.c.l. bills of lading when he ships the carload,  
turn these over to the railroad, and let nature take its course.

"An idea of the saving to the shipper over previous l.c.l. rates  
is the hypothetical case of a 40,000-lb. shipment by mixed merchandise  
carload to Memphis, then broken and moved l.c.l. to destinations carry-  
ing the same rates as Clarksdale, Miss., 75 miles distant. Typical  
content of a mixed car is: Class 1, 25%; Class 2, 35%; Class 3, 25%;  
Class 4, 15%. These l.c.l. rates are 77¢, 65¢, 54¢, and 42¢ respective-  
ly. Under the new rate, at the flat 42¢, the bill is \$168. The ship-  
per saves 31%. And whether he has been sending his packages by rail or  
by highway, he can now -- by using railroad l.c.l. -- save himself the  
cost of unloading his pool car....."

"Farm on                      "The first part of this month a special six-car  
Wheels"                      train, publicized as the 'Farm on Wheels,' completed  
a fortnight's trip through Louisiana, Mississippi and  
Tennessee on the Illinois Central System, and marked the revival of  
the traveling agricultural demonstration after an almost complete coma  
during the depression," says Business Week (March 9). "'The Farm on  
Wheels,' making half a dozen daily stops, brought out more than 3,000  
daily visitors on this trip. In one car, they saw pure-bred hogs, a  
Jersey bull, a Guernsey cow, and grade heifers. In the next there were  
beef bulls of purebred royalty, common-type cows, and their chunky off-  
spring -- to teach the lesson of good breeding. A third car carried  
pasture and forage crops actually growing in boxes, exhibits of seeds  
and fertilizers, and methods of cotton use. A fourth car was rigged  
up for movie-illustrated lectures. A baggage car carried stock feed,  
bedding, and a generator; and an office car housed the crew of railroad  
agricultural agents and of state college teachers who tended the exhibits  
and lectured to attentive visitors....."



## U. S. Farm

Exports to            "The decline in exports of American farm products  
Belligerents        to the belligerent countries, and notably to Great  
                     Britain, has aroused a good deal of resentment in agri-  
                     cultural circles, and is leading to increasing pressure  
on Washington for remedial measures," says a recent editorial in the  
New York Journal of Commerce. "The Department of Agriculture warned,  
when the war began, that it would result in smaller, rather than  
larger, exports of farm products from the United States. However,  
farmers generally thought otherwise, and sentiment exists for bringing  
pressure upon Great Britain to buy more agricultural products from the  
United States.....

"Among the remedial proposals that have been advanced are several  
designed to force the Allies to buy our farm products along with air-  
craft and other war materials. One proposal is that the Allied powers  
be required to contract for a specific volume of farm products before  
licenses will be granted them for exports of war supplies.....Another  
suggestion has been that a tax be levied on American industries which  
profit from export sales of armaments to provide a subsidy for farmers  
who lose their export markets.....

"If American industry benefits from the sale of war materials or  
other supplies to Europe, employment and purchasing power in this coun-  
try are increased and agriculture benefits indirectly. If we impose  
burdensome conditions upon the granting of export licenses covering  
shipments of aircraft and other products to Great Britain and France,  
such as the requirement that they purchase substantial quantities of  
agricultural products which they do not now need, we may cause them to  
curtail their total purchases here to a considerable extent. This  
would defeat the purpose of the proposal, since the consequent loss of  
industrial exports would indirectly affect the domestic market for farm  
products adversely." (PPS 202.)

Chemical  
Compounds

                     The American Chemical Society has reported that  
                     organic chemists of the world made 25,000 new chemical  
                     compounds last year, an increase of about 6 percent  
over 1938. Biochemistry registered an increase of activity of about  
5 percent. Professor E. J. Crane of Ohio State University, editor of  
Chemical Abstracts, in which the findings of the society's internation-  
al reporting are assembled, pointed out that these gains were accom-  
plished in the face of a general falling off of about 5 percent in the  
published results of chemical research as a consequence of the European  
war. Analysis of the statistics, he said, indicates America's growing  
leadership in chemical research. (Press.)

## Rayon

                     Exports of rayon yarn in 1939 were 12,000,000  
                     pounds, valued at \$15,300,000, a new high, the Textile  
Economics Bureau has estimated. The previous peak was \$11,000,000 in  
1938. (Press.)

Senate Debated H. R. 8641, first deficiency appropriation bill. Agreed without debate to the committee amendment increasing the insect-control item to \$3,000,000, the Budget estimate.

March 11 S. 3480, the Gillette bill which would set up the F.C.A. as an independent agency, was taken from the Select Committee on Government Organization and referred to the Committee on Banking and Currency.

House Received from the War Department reports on  
March 11 examinations for flood control on Connecticut River (H. Doc. 653), Fall River and Beaver Creek (H. Doc. 655), Winooski and Dog Rivers (H. Doc. 656), and Mobile River (H. Doc. 657); to Com. on Flood Control.

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Karakul New interest in karakul sheep has recently arisen,  
Sheep says Farm and Ranch (March) and many inquiries have been received. Experiments in crossing with other breeds of sheep have been conducted for a number of years and grading up from some breeds has shown better results in producing commercially valuable fur. U.S.D.A. Farmers' Bulletin 1632 brings the subject fairly well up to date. The commercial production of lambskins for fur holds promise for the future, though the volume at present is not sufficient to make much impression on the fur market.

Bankruptcies Bankruptcies among this country's farmers last  
in 1939 at year touched the lowest point in almost two decades.  
18-Year Low They were 21 percent below the preceding year's and down 82 percent from the peak of 7,872 recorded in 1925, according to the Department of Agriculture. A total of 1,422 farmer bankruptcies was reported for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1939, compared with 1,799 for the previous fiscal year. This decrease is the continuation of a decline which has been in progress since 1933, when 5,317 such cases were recorded. Although there were 5,649 fewer bankruptcies among all occupational groups last year than in 1938, the percentage drop for the farmer group was more marked than in other lines. (New York Times.)

Rural Social Federal agencies have drained from universities  
Teachers and colleges so many scholars qualified to teach rural subjects that an acute shortage of future personnel is threatened, Dr. George F. Zook, president of the American Council on Education, said recently. He announced an "exploratory study" to seek out competent new personnel under a committee headed by Dr. E. G. Nourse, director of the Institute of Economics of the Brookings Institution. Prof. T. W. Schultz of Iowa State College has been named director of the study. (Press.)



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVI, No. 52

Section 1

March 14, 1940

## FARM CREDIT POLICIES

"Controversy over federal farm loan policy mounted last night as President Roosevelt made public the resignation of Albert S. Goss, Land Bank Commissioner of the Farm Credit Administration," says Hedley Donovan, Washington Post staff writer. "Goss condemned farm credit legislation under which 'the government pays the loss whenever the borrower wants to quit paying.'

"The retiring commissioner asserted the bill introduced by Representative Jones of Texas, chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, 'would destroy the cooperative credit system which has operated successfully for 23 years and substitute for it a highly centralized bureaucratic lending agency under one-man control'...Goss became commissioner in 1933. His resignation takes effect tomorrow..."

## RIVERS FUND OPPOSED

President Roosevelt expressed opposition yesterday to pending legislation to appropriate several hundred million dollars in flood control, navigation and power projects, contending that such projects already authorized would absorb available funds for two or three years.

Mr. Roosevelt's stand was disclosed by Senator Josiah Bailey of North Carolina, who called with Messrs. Sheppard and McNary of the Senate Commerce Committee at the White House to discuss the situation with the President. Senator Bailey said Mr. Roosevelt's views would be laid before his committee. (New York Times.)

## NEW VITAMIN DISCOVERY

A new vitamin, the existence of which has never been suspected, was reported to the American Institute of Nutrition yesterday at New Orleans by Drs. A. G. Hogan, L. R. Richardson and Homer Patrick of the University, according to a copyright Science Service report. This vitamin, which has not been identified yet, has been provisionally labeled Vitamin Bp. It is concerned with the development and shape of bones.

The exact significance of the vitamin, other than for prevention of perosis in chicks, is still a matter of speculation, the Missouri scientists state. "Our first thought is," they said, "since it is concerned with the bone development and conformation of the chick it may also be concerned with the structural development of other animals and of man himself." It was discovered in studies of the slipped-tendon disease of chicks.



Control of Cattle Louse      "For the past two or three years the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, in cooperation with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station and the Extension Service of A. & M. College, has been experimenting in methods designed to control the short-nosed ox louse, or the cattle louse, infesting practically all of the cattle-producing range lands of Texas, and especially the Texas Panhandle," says the Southwestern Sheep & Goat Raiser (March). "The Edwards Plateau has been comparatively free of this louse but its spread in recent years has caused much concern in the industry. The work of Dr. O. G. Babcock (Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine) in studying control methods is highly significant in a dollar-and-cents way to every ranchman, and it is reported that progress is encouraging. The method used involves a dip composed of 100 pounds of wettable sulphur, 10 pounds of 5 percent rotenone cube or derris in suspension in 1,000 gallons of water. Cattle are dipped at 17 to 19-day intervals, which interval is based upon the egg hatch period of this louse. The mixture in pit or vat is effective only five or six days."

New Grain Combine      The International Harvester Company will start manufacture about midsummer of a new small grain harvesting combine with a four-foot cut, says a Chicago report in the Wall Street Journal. The four-foot combine, Harvester's announcement explains, has been developed primarily for the farm with from 10 to 50 acres in grain or seed crops, in keeping with the company's policy of designing and building smaller and lower priced machines for the smaller farms. The new machine will harvest and thresh all of the commercially grown small grains, such as wheat, oats, barley, soy beans, rye, etc., and in addition will harvest many legumes, grasses and special seed crops. The new combine weighs only 1,900 pounds, in contrast with the larger ones weighing from 3,500 to 7,500 pounds.

Forecasting the Market      "A market specialist noted for his scientific and accurate forecasts of market prices of fruit is Dr. H. R. Wellman of California (College of Agriculture) who weighs with great care every factor in the situation to determine how the market outlook is shaping up for the months ahead," says Texas Farming and Citriculture (March). "His analysis of the price structures of citrus in particular have been proved to be highly valuable to California growers. Their 1937-38 lemon crop approximated 6,600,000 boxes and brought a return on the tree of \$11,352,000. If 2,000,000 more boxes had been marketed, the return would have been reduced, according to Doctor Wellman, by nearly ten million dollars. That is, where between six and seven million boxes brought more than eleven million dollars, between eight and nine million marketed boxes would have brought less than two million dollars. This, if true, indicates what over-production and over-marketing will do to a price structure. Texas grapefruit growers who oppose control of marketing should think the matter over."



Trade Bar      Representatives of ten Western States, after a Conference      recent conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico, on inter-state trade barriers, were in general agreement against certain types of commerce-restricting laws, says an Associated Press report. The conferees agreed to refer to their state legislatures for repeal or modification those laws which they had found to restrain interstate trade. The conference named these types of legislation as hindrances to the free flow of commerce: "Buy-at-home" laws giving preferential price advantages to home products, widely varying weight regulations, mileage taxes and license fees for trucks; use taxes which do not have compensating features to allow for sales taxes paid in other states; taxes against oleo-margarine made from domestic oils; and laws protecting home distilleries against out-of-state competition. (PPS209.)

Forestry      The farm forestry demonstration in Nacogdoches Project      County (Texas) is a type of enterprise which doubtless will become frequent in Texas, now that many farmers are turning from cotton to tree crops, says the San Antonio Express. The Nacogdoches project covers 150,000 acres; about a thousand farms make up 82 percent. The remaining 18 percent is in cut-over timberlands and other woodland tracts owned by lumber companies. The United States Forest Service, Texas Extension Service and Texas Forest Service jointly are sponsoring that enterprise. The primary purpose is to teach the farmer how to grow trees as a money crop and to show the many ways in which a forest tract on the farm can benefit the owner. By judicious thinning, the better trees can be saved for lumber, while lesser growth is carted away to the pulp mill.

A related enterprise is going ahead in Upshur County, where farmers have planted about a million seedlings in worn-out cotton fields. Not only these farm forestry activities, but also the inception of the community forest movement in Texas, are heartily welcome and encouraging. Such enterprises must come along in large numbers and rapid succession to make amends for many years' neglect of the woodland-planting and conservation cause in Texas. (PPS 209.)

Appraisal of      The spring issue of The Index (New York Trust Agriculture      Company) contains a 15-page article on "American Agriculture, 1933-1940--An Appraisal." The last two paragraphs say: "The critical condition of the national finances and the growing sensitiveness of people generally toward taxes must sooner or later result in a reconsideration of present methods of dealing with the difficult and well-recognized intricacies of the agricultural problem. Possibly also general industrial recovery in the United States and a return of more normal conditions in international trade at the end of the war will help in a realistic solution of the farm problem by increasing consumption of the basic agricultural commodities this country is able to produce so abundantly."



Senate Passed H. R. 8641, first deficiency appropriation  
March 12 bill. As passed this bill contains the following items  
for this Department: fighting forest fires, \$3,550,000;  
grasshopper control, \$3,500,000; Federal Seed Act, \$10,000; A. A. A.  
payments, \$60,000,000.

Continued debate on S. 3046, to amend the Hatch Act so as to in-  
clude State employees paid from Federal funds. Mr. Johnson's amendment,  
to except from the bill's provisions Federal employees who work in States  
whose laws do not forbid State employees from engaging in political  
activity, was rejected by a vote of 34 to 47.

Mr. Frazier gave notice that he will move to suspend the rules in  
order to propose an amendment to H. R. 8202, agricultural appropriation  
bill, to provide for refunding processing taxes to certain hog pro-  
ducers.

House Committee on Judiciary reported the following with  
March 12 amendment: H. R. 6767, to provide additional compensa-  
tion for employees killed or injured while performing  
work of a hazardous nature incident to law-enforcement activity (H.  
Rept. 1753); and H. R. 7737, to provide for intervention by States and  
direct appeals to the Supreme Court in certain cases involving the con-  
stitutionality of the exercise of any power by any United States agency  
or employee (H. Rept. 1760). Committee on Library reported without  
amendment H. R. 8357, to amend the Mount Rushmore Memorial Act of 1938  
by increasing the amount of land therein (H. Rept. 1757).

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Trade With Experts of the Department of Commerce have reported  
So. America little prospect of increasing United States-South  
American trade unless financial and political barriers  
to capital investment are removed, says a United Press report. Their  
conclusions, based on a six-months' study, have been transmitted to  
Secretary Hopkins. He and other Administration officials have been  
seeking to expand trade with the southern republics to offset some of  
the losses caused by the war.

Diversion of South American purchases from European countries to  
the United States, due to the wars abroad resulted in more than doub-  
ling exports of this country to that area in January, as compared with  
the corresponding month in 1939, says another report from the Department  
of Commerce. Exports to the southern continent in the first month this  
year totaled \$38,566,000, as compared with \$18,695,000 in January, 1939,  
the report showed. On the other hand purchases by the United States  
from South American countries in January rose only \$4,261,000 to a  
total of \$31,570,000. (New York Times.)



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Vol. LXXVI, No. 53

Section 1

March 15, 1940

## FARM CREDIT NOMINATIONS

President Roosevelt yesterday nominated two new officials to the Farm Credit Administration to replace men who recently resigned. Named to the post of land bank commissioner was Roy M. Green of Kansas, to succeed Albert S. Goss. Chosen for the position of production credit commissioner was Carl R. Arnold of Ohio as successor to S. M. Garwood.

Regarding the Goss resignation, L. J. Taber, master of the National Grange, issued a statement saying the action came "as a shock to the friends of organized agriculture." "Mr. Goss has served for a quarter of a century in various farm organizations," Mr. Taber said, "and has the esteem of literally millions of people, who will keenly regret this treatment of a conscientious, tireless and faithful public servant." (Washington Star.)

## FREIGHT RATE REDUCTIONS

The South won another freight-rate victory yesterday when the Interstate Commerce Commission refused to reconsider a November decision granting long-sought reductions on a list of South-to-North rates. The commission rejected a plea of northern railroads to reopen the case for further argument. The November decision ordered reductions, effective June 1, ranging from 5 to 35 percent on a list of 18 manufactured articles. (A.P.)

## BRITAIN BARS CANNED FRUIT

An A.P. report from London says Britain will stop importing canned and bottled fruits March 19, according to an announcement last night by the Board of Trade. Shipments on the way before March 15 will not be affected. Technically the order prohibits imports except under license, but a spokesman for the board--the British Government's commerce department--said no licenses would be required. In 1938 more than \$14,000,000 worth of canned and bottled fruits were imported from the United States, he said, and such imports from all countries totaled about \$25,200,000.

## ALL-AMERICAS BANK BACKED

The government stated its willingness yesterday to sign a proposed convention establishing a \$100,000,000 Inter-American Bank for the promotion of trade and financial stability in the Western Hemisphere. Secretary Hull said the United States was prepared to sign on April 14, Pan American Day. Thus far three American republics, the United States, Mexico, and Columbia, have signified their intention of signing the convention. (A.P.)



**Fiber from Soya Bean**                      Out of the protein in soya beans two Japanese chemists have developed a strong synthetic fiber of high tensile strength which can resemble wool or natural silk, depending on production methods, says a copyright Science Service report. The process is described in a new patent granted by the U. S. Patent Office to Toshiji Kajita and Ryohei Inoue of Tokyo. Scientists of the Department of Agriculture express little surprise that a wool-like fiber can be created from soya beans, for it has been done experimentally, also, in the United States. The claims of a silk-like fiber are novel. While samples of the new Japanese fiber are not available, it is believed that this claim relates to the appearance of one form of the fiber which might be straight, without the kink of wool, and which might possess a sheen resembling that of silk. Chemists, too, are interested in the new patent because it describes the use of lecithin to stabilize the protein solution. American investigators have found that with soya bean protein solutions a critical stage is reached where pectin is present. If the pectin in the solution makes it gel prematurely the whole batch must be thrown out. If the Japanese can prevent this gelation with lecithin they have made a real advance in the synthetic fiber art.

**Spray, Dust Legislation**                      North Carolina farmers can now buy materials to kill plant pests and fungus diseases with "greater certainty of performance than at any time in the state's history," Commissioner of Agriculture W. Kerr Scott said recently. Under an amended law by the 1939 General Assembly, the State's Insecticide and Fungicide Statute was "renovated" to give greater inspectional powers and greater protection to farmers who buy spraying and dusting materials. One of the important features of the amended law is the provision requiring that all insecticide and fungicide materials be colored to safeguard the public in the event that the materials become confused with food or feed products, Mr. Scott said. (Raleigh News and Observer, PPS216.)

**Tariff Survey**                              In a detailed summary of United States foreign trade under the wartime conditions of the closing months of last year the American Tariff League recently called attention to the substantial readjustments in trade following the outbreak of war. The league, which has been a consistent opponent of the Administration's reciprocal trade agreements program, confined its current survey to a factual study of trade changes without reference to the controversy over the trade agreements. "War in Europe did not bring an end-of-the-year expansion in agricultural exports," the report said in part. "While the value of agricultural exports was slightly higher in the last four months of 1939 than in the corresponding period of 1938, the increase resulted largely from subsidized exports of cotton. Exports of wheat, tobacco and fruits were far below the end-of-the-year volume of 1938." (Press.)



Effect of  
Cooking  
on Thiamin

The effect of cooking upon the thiamin (Vitamin B<sub>1</sub>) content of foods is discussed in an article in the Journal of Nutrition (March 11) by Elizabeth Aughey, Bureau of Standards, and Esther P. Daniel, Food and Drug Administration (both formerly of the Bureau of Home Economics). Summarizing studies, they say: "Thiamin destruction amounted to as much as 22% in some vegetables boiled in water and additional amounts up to 15% dissolved in the cooking water. In cases where the cooking water is discarded total thiamin losses in vegetables may amount to approximately 20 to 35%. The addition of a small amount of sodium bicarbonate markedly increased the destruction of thiamin in green peas and snap beans but had no significant effect upon the thiamin content of boiled navy beans. Roasting caused a loss of 43% of the thiamin in pork loin, nearly three times as much destruction as braising. Double boiler cooking of whole grain cereals did not destroy thiamin; baking bread caused about 15% loss of this vitamin."

Tennessee  
Live-At-Home

"Governor Prentice Cooper makes an interesting announcement when he says a statewide 'live-at-home' program will be fostered by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture," says an editorial in the Memphis Commercial Appeal. "In general the state live-at-home program will follow lines developed by the experience of the Commercial Appeal with the Plant to Prosper Competition in the MidSouth over the last five years or so. No prizes will be awarded by the state, for that is clearly out of the state's proper sphere, but certificates of merit are in mind for the farm families that adopt and maintain the program successfully. The history of state-sponsored live-at-home movements in the Carolinas helps prove that the idea is sound and feasible in Tennessee." (PPS220.)

"Multiple"  
Hydroponics

Multiple cropping, or the growing of two or more kinds of vegetables or flowers in the same tank of water containing nutrient chemicals, is the newest development in hydroponics, says a Science Service report. Possibilities of multiple cropping are explained by the originator, Dr. William F. Gericke, in his new book, "Soilless Gardening." Doctor Gericke states that he has successfully grown such combinations as corn and potatoes; potatoes, tomatoes and celery; and daffodils, godetias, gladioli and chrysanthemums simultaneously in the same hydroponic basins. While it is possible for the amateur gardener to have a lot of fun with hydroponics if he does not stop to bother about the costs, Doctor Gericke emphasizes that using the system for profit-making purposes is a task for scientific knowledge and practical horticultural experience.



Senate Continued debate on S. 3046 to extend the Hatch  
 March 13 Act to State employees paid from Federal funds. Re-  
 jected Mr. Bankhead's amendment to prohibit excessive  
 campaign contributions, by a vote of 36 to 45.

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported without amendment  
 S. 2377, to include hides under the provisions of the Commodity Ex-  
 change Act.

(As passed the Senate, the first deficiency appropriation bill  
 contained a \$3,000,000 item for grasshopper control, instead of  
 \$3,500,000, as reported under Senate, March 12.)

House Passed H. R. 8913, legislative appropriation bill,  
 March 13 which was reported from the Committee on Appropriations  
 (H. Rept. 1764).

Committee on Indian Affairs reported without amend-  
 ment H. R. 7833, to set aside lands now in the Chippewa National Forest  
 for permanent use of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. (H. Rept. 1779.)

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Cotton Under Stamp Plan Retailers in cities coming under the cotton stamp  
 plan of the Department of Agriculture should determine  
 the origin of goods sold by them in order to concentrate  
 the plan's benefits on the domestic market; and to help the Administra-  
 tion avoid the accusation that it is "using the taxpayers' money to sub-  
 sidize Japanese cotton," Milo R. Perkins, president of the Federal  
 Surplus Commodities Corporation, said recently at a discussion with man-  
 ufacturers and retailers. Among the questions raised were those of  
 differentiating between goods manufactured abroad, goods manufactured  
 here out of foreign material, and the status of old inventories. Mr.  
 Perkins admitted that the foreign angle of the problem was essentially  
 unimportant because of the minor part imports play in the cotton in-  
 dustry, but he said that from a public relations standpoint retailers  
 will have to sell only American products under the program. (New York  
 Herald Tribune, PPS221.)

Percheron Ohio is the home of the first Percheron stallion  
 for Africa to be exported from the United States to Africa. W.B.  
 Murray, Lorain County breeder of Percherons, sold the  
 black 4-year-old O'Laet to the Department of Agriculture and Forestry  
 of the Union of South Africa for use in the stud at the College of  
 Agriculture at Pretoria. The horse was formerly owned by Ohio State  
 University. (Ohio Farmer, March 9.)

Medical Aid Under FSA Minnesota Medicine (March) reviewing the National  
 Conference on Medical Care in Chicago last month, says  
 Dr. R. C. Williams of the Public Health Service reported  
 that 420 county medical societies are now cooperating with the Farm  
 Security Administration to provide medical care for FSA clients in many  
 parts of the United States.



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVI, No. 54

Section 1

March 18, 1940

**FCA LOANS REAMORTIZED** About 100,000 federal land banks and commissioner loans have been reamortized for longer terms and "a good start has been made in placing heavily delinquent loans in the Great Plains area on a sounder basis," according to A. G. Black, governor of the Farm Credit Administration. Crop payment, standstill agreements on second mortgages and other measures have been applied to rehabilitate seriously delinquent loans. Most of the reamortization applied to commissioner loans originally amortized for short periods, which required principal payments larger than heavily encumbered farmers could meet. (Press.)

**HOUSING AID FOR FARMERS** President Roosevelt has authorized expansion of the federal low-rent housing program to include 1,300 farm dwelling units for the under-privileged of agriculture in six widely scattered counties in the southern and middle western states. Costing an average of \$2,000, including land, the houses are to rent for less than a dollar a week under a Housing Authority plan providing amortization in 60 years.

The President's approval of the project was announced by his secretary, Stephen T. Early, as an expansion of the slum clearance and housing program of the U.S.H.A. Calling for federal loans of \$2,524,500, the undertaking was described by Mr. Early as "a small beginning in view of the vast need" and as contemplating "a better way of living for a large share of the rural population." (Press.)

**ARGENTINE, JAPAN SIGN AGREEMENT** Argentina and Japan have signed a reciprocal trade agreement by which the two countries are to purchase goods from each other to the value of approximately 30,000,000 a year, says a Buenos Aires report to the New York Times. The agreement is in the form of two notes exchanged between Foreign Minister Jose Maria Cantillo and the Japanese Minister Iwataro Uchiyama.

Under the agreement, Japan will purchase 6,000 tons of wool, 4,000 tons of frozen beef and canned meats, 4,000 tons of casein, in addition to other products not specified. Argentina agrees to grant exchange permits at a favorable rate of exchange to facilitate importation of industrial chemicals from Japan, as well as cotton textiles, iron and steel goods and other unspecified manufactured goods.

Comparison                      The leading article in the March 10 issue of  
in Milk                      Hoard's Dairyman is "Reducing Costs of Producing  
Production                      Milk" by O. E. Reed, Chief of the Bureau of Dairy  
                                 Industry. An editorial comments on his article,  
and says: "Mr. Reed discusses, among other things, the experimental  
breeding trials inaugurated 21 years ago by the Bureau of Dairy In-  
dustry. The high production of these cows as compared to the general  
levels of production of good cows in D.H.I.A. work has led to some  
misunderstanding and criticism. For this reason we feel it opportune  
to give some explanation.

"When this breeding trial was started the generally accepted  
method was to make records on the basis of three-time daily milking  
and relatively heavy feeding. The yearly records covered 365 days,  
and the best yearly record of the cow was considered the proper  
measure of her ability. This same system was followed by the bureau,  
but to insure comparability the feed and care of the cows was  
standardized so each succeeding generation was given the same identical  
conditions for production. The investigators even went so far as to  
analyze the hay and feed so as to insure that each cow got the same  
quality and palatability. The same kinds of grains and roughage were  
continued throughout the trial, cows being fed according to their pro-  
duction. Due to this system the records of the cows were high, but  
because they were made so far as possible under identical conditions,  
it is believed each cow was given an equal opportunity. For these  
reasons the records are comparable....."

Cooperative                      "More herds and greater permanent good from the  
Cow Testing                      group testing of dairy cows is sought in a plan which  
                                 E. E. Heizer, dairy husbandry leader at the Wisconsin  
College of Agriculture, expects to set going in Polk, Winnebago and  
Langlade counties, as trial efforts," says an editorial in Wisconsin  
Agriculturist (March 9). "It has long been recognized that there is  
a lack of permanent values in the way in which the average local dairy  
herd improvement unit is established and maintained. Heizer and  
others who have experimented elsewhere in a limited way with group  
testing, feel that the countywide basis is sounder and that such test-  
ing associations ought to be self-sustaining and be incorporated under  
the state cooperative laws. We shall observe and report on these new  
ventures. It may be they are what is needed to secure a wider enroll-  
ment of our dairy farmers in such progressive programs....."

Farm Tool                      Earnings of farm-equipment companies declined  
Industry                      sharply in 1939, compared with those in the two preceding  
                                 years, as a reflection of lower farm buying power here,  
price weakness for farm products in other principal agricultural coun-  
tries and active competition among the companies themselves. (Press.)



### Waxing of Vegetables

In an article on waxed vegetables, in New England Homestead (March 9) Hans Platenius of Cornell University discusses vegetables which are likely to profit from

waxing. "It was found that good results are obtained with all root crops except parsnips," he says. "Peppers, tomatoes, eggplants, cucumbers and squash have given favorable response and many growers in the East are now waxing these crops by means of dipping in wax emulsions. Leafy vegetables and bunched root crops cannot be waxed satisfactorily, mainly because it is almost impossible to dry them after waxing even under favorable conditions....."

"Based on accurate records it was found that the waxing can be done for 3 to 4 cents per bushel. This figure includes both labor and material and it is nearly the same, regardless of whether the operation is carried out by hand or by means of mechanical equipment on a large scale. The premium received for waxed vegetables depends largely on the particular market where the vegetables are sold. In some cases, buyers are known to have offered from 20 to 30 cents more per bushel for waxed than for untreated vegetables....."

### New Dwarf Apple Trees

In an article on new dwarf apple trees, in New England Homestead (March 9) Lawrence Southwick, of the Massachusetts Experiment Station, says in part:

"Some twenty-five years ago, the East Malling research station in Kent, England, undertook a study of Paradise and Doucin apple stocks as grown in England and on the Continent. Dr. R. G. Hatton found these stocks badly mixed and finally separated out sixteen distinct types. In their effect on top-worked varieties, they proved to be all the way from extremely dwarfing to very vigorous.....In 1926 J. K. Shaw, pomologist at the Massachusetts Station, imported most of the East Malling rootstocks which showed promise. An orchard of McIntosh and Wealthy was set in 1928 and others in later years to study the suitability of these clonal stocks for our varieties under our growing conditions. Other experiment stations are carrying on similar work.

"Ultimately a comprehensive evaluation of the performance of many stock-scion combinations under variable environmental conditions should give us something definite and practical on which to plan future orchard plantings. Today, the surface of the problem is merely scratched, yet we believe that there is sufficient collective evidence to warrant trial commercial plantings of certain clonal-rooted apple trees. A few nurserymen are propagating a few varieties on a few of these clonal rootstocks. Should grower demand warrant expansion of this 'sideline', a price range approaching that of seedling rooted trees would not be impossible. It would mean a change in rootstock propagation methods."



Senate Continued debate on S. 3046, to extend the Hatch  
March 14 Act to State employees paid from Federal funds. Agreed  
to Bankhead amendment limiting campaign contributions  
to \$5,000, by a vote of 40 to 38.

Both Houses agreed to the conference report on H. R. 8068, Treasury-Post Office appropriation bill, which now goes to the President.

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported with amendments S. 2925, to amend the T.V.A. Act so as to provide for payments to States in lieu of taxes. (S. Rept. 1310.)

House Mr. Cochran inserted in the Record a letter from  
March 14 Secretary Wallace and other correspondence defending  
the action of the F.S.C.C. in shipping apples to Bentonville, Arkansas.

Received from the War Department a report on the examination of Touchet River, Wash., for flood control. (H. Doc. 662.)

Adjourned until Monday, March 18.

Senate Continued debate on S. 3046, to extend the Hatch  
March 15 Act to State employees paid from Federal funds. Agreed  
to Brown amendment exempting State and local agency  
employees not financed in whole or in part by Federal loans or grants. The committee amendment broadening the powers of the Civil Service Commission so as to withhold funds from departments or agencies not conforming to the act was agreed to. Mr. Hatch's amendment authorizing the Civil Service Commission to define the term "active part in political management or campaigns" and to amend such rules and regulations when it deems necessary was passed. Mr. Stewart's amendment to limit the application of the Hatch bill to apply only to conditions when a major portion of money expended is from the Federal government was rejected.

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Books on "It's someone's turn now to write a book or play  
Rural Life depicting the happier, more hopeful side of farming,"  
says an editorial in the Indiana Farmers Guide (March 9). "They've worked 'Tobacco Road' to a fare-you-well and now 'Grapes of Wrath' is running hog-wild. Even the 'The Yearling,' a 1939 Pulitzer prize winner, presents the none-too-successful struggle for existence of a farmer-hunter and family living in the swamps of Florida. It's a common belief that the well-ordered life of an average farm family doesn't make the kind of reading people want. Yet, fiction built around commonplace farm life has been known to take hold. David Grayson's 'Adventures in Contentment,' however idealistic, has lived for over 30 years and Charles Allen Smart's 'R.F.D.' bids fair to repeat the trick....What we need is a greater number of written or dramatic presentations based on 4-H achievements, rural electrification and farm life emancipated from a sizeable share of the old-time drudgery. In other words, give us a more balanced picture of rural America--it will command greater respect from the city and raise our own self-seteen."



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Section 1

March 19, 1940

## INTERSTATE TRADE BARS

The expansion of interstate trade barriers, the Temporary National Economic Committee was told yesterday, is threatening to create a condition which might lead in the United States to economic and political chaos such as that caused by the break-up of the Austro-Hungarian Empire into half a dozen small tariff-walled states.

Beginning a week's hearing on this subject, the committee heard example after example of legal interstate barriers created ostensibly to enforce the states' police, health, sanitation and taxation powers, but which are actually operating, and often were obviously intended to operate, to discriminate against competing products and services from other states. (New York Times.)

## SENATE VOTES HATCH BILL

The Senate yesterday adopted the Hatch bill to control political activities among state jobholders paid in whole or in part with federal funds, says a report in the New York Times. This was after amending it to a restrictive form far more severe than contemplated by the bill's sponsors when it became a center of controversy two weeks ago. The final vote was 58 to 28. The House now faces a decision on approving the original bill, as well as a series of Senate amendments which would greatly alter current practice under the federal laws.

## HOSPITAL BILL BACKED

Local participation in a proposed hospital program involving federal expenditures of \$10,000,000 in its first year of operation was requested yesterday by the American Medical Association, in testimony by spokesmen before a Senate labor subcommittee. The subcommittee considered, at an open hearing, a bill to authorize this initial construction program, introduced by Senators Wagner and George, who also appeared as witnesses.

Dr. Morris Fishbein, editor of the A.M.A. journal, said the association desires assurance of local control over hospitals. The sponsors estimated that there is a need for about 360,000 additional hospital beds, chiefly in rural and economically depressed areas. (Press.)

## TRADE PACT

A Madrid wireless to the New York Times says a commercial treaty between Great Britain and Spain was signed yesterday by Col. Juan Beigbeder, the Foreign Minister, and Sir Maurice Peterson, British Ambassador.

Irrigation  
in Kansas

"Kansas will have a greatly increased volume of irrigation water to quench the thirst of 1940 crops," says Kansas Farmer (March 9). "Some of this additional water will come from wells in completely new irrigation areas; some will come from new plants where irrigation has been tried and proved. Up and down the Kaw River Valley, farmers have seen the relatively few irrigation plants produce bumper crops on the fertile level fields of this area. Many are deciding they cannot afford to be without irrigation. Their situation is expressed by Preston Hale, agricultural agent for Shawnee county. Mr. Hale says each farmer in the Kaw Valley pays for an irrigation plant every two years, regardless of whether or not he owns one. If he doesn't own an irrigation system, he pays for it anyway through lower crop yields caused by lack of moisture.

"Actual results obtained by Scott Kelsey, near Topeka, show this to be a conservative statement. In fact, a plant installed by Mr. Kelsey paid for itself in one year. In 1936 potatoes supplied by 5 inches of irrigation water on his farm yielded 50 bushels an acre higher than potatoes not irrigated. That year the potatoes sold at \$2.50 a hundred, so the irrigation water actually brought an increase of \$70 an acre. Mr. Kelsey, who is one of the leading potato growers in Kansas, emphasizes that irrigating for potatoes does more than boost yields. It also boosts value of the crop by maturing potatoes for an early market.....Both Mr. Kelsey and Mr. Hale think of irrigation in the Kaw Valley as a supplementary measure but they consider that some water is of value almost every year. The same idea is expressed by A. D. Robb, assistant meteorologist with the Kansas Weather Bureau. Years of experience in weather observations have convinced Mr. Robb that almost every season brings forth at least one period when crops are damaged by heat and lack of moisture....."

Chemist  
Honored

The William H. Nichols gold medal of the New York Section of the American Chemical Society, one of the highest honors in chemical research, was presented recently to Professor John M. Nelson, of Columbia University, "for his important contributions to the chemistry of life processes." Professor Nelson was cited "as an internationally recognized authority on the isolation and purification of naturally occurring enzymes and the quantitative study of their mode of action." His work has been concerned largely with two enzymes: invertase and tyrosinase. (New York Times.)



"Eleventh Commandment"      "We have but to see the havoc wrought by man in the older countries, especially in China, Korea, North Africa and other Near East countries to realize what is going to happen here if we neglect soil conservation much longer," says an editorial in California Cultivator (March 9). "Dr. W. C. Loudermilk, assistant chief of the Soil Conservation Service, recently made a study of these Near East countries and in a pamphlet entitled 'The Eleventh Commandment' he tells something of what he saw in these countries where once lived a happy people but where now there is nothing but desolation because no thought was given to conserving the soil."

"Doctor Loudermilk thinks that Moses overlooked one most important commandment which he designates as the eleventh, which he thinks should read something like this: 'Thou shalt inherit the holy earth as a faithful steward, conserving its resources and productivity from generation to generation. Thou shalt safeguard thy fields from soil erosion, thy living waters from drying up, thy forests from desolation and protect thy hills from over-grazing by thy herds, so that thy descendants may have abundance forever. If any shall fail in this stewardship of the land thy fruitful fields shall become sterile stony ground and wasting gullies and thy descendants shall decrease and live in poverty or be destroyed from off the face of the earth'....."

Interstate Seed Labels      "In the past few years quite a business of seed hauling and selling by truckers has developed," says an editorial in the Dakota Farmer (March 9). "A good many thousand bushels of seed grains have been brought into the Dakotas from other states and sold direct to farmers, who have had to rely on the truckers' statements as to history and quality of the seed. Last month the provisions of the new Federal Seed Act became effective on field seeds. All such seeds brought over a state line must be accompanied by label showing origin of the seed, name of shipper, germination test, percentage of weed seed, etc. The federal people in charge of enforcing the act urge all seed buyers to report to the state officials any cases where seed is offered them which has been brought into the state without proper labelling....."

Standardized Wheel Sizes      "Rubber tires will probably soon force greater standardization of wheel sizes on tractors and farm implements," says Warren Lockwood, assistant secretary, Rubber Manufacturers' Association. Chief drawback of rubber on the farm has been "initial cost." And one reason for the high initial cost has been the widely varying sizes in wheels. Take a look at this picture of tractor tire sizes in 1938: One hundred and four different tractor tire sizes sold to manufacturers; twenty-five sizes accounted for 94 percent of sales; fifty-four sizes accounted for one percent of sales; and in each of 22 sizes, less than 20 tires were sold during the entire year. (Prairie Farmer, March 9.)



**Agricultural Insecticides**                "Manufacturers of agricultural insecticides and dealers in these products have found the entomological departments of the various state agricultural colleges of big assistance to them in recent years, not only in developing and testing new products, but also in extending their sale through cooperative effort," says an article in Soap (March). "Manufacturers of household and agricultural insecticides alike have both grown familiar in recent years with the work of the entomological department of Purdue University under the supervision of Prof. J.J. Davis. Besides sponsoring an annual Pest Control Operators' Conference, this department issues frequent bulletins dealing with insect problems and methods of control, copies going to manufacturers as well as users of both household and agricultural insecticides. Perhaps as a result of the stimulation of this original effort, the conference idea has spread to other states, and other universities have started a search for ways in which they might aid the insecticide manufacturer as well as the user.

"Insecticide dealers in the State of Delaware have just finished the first year of operation under a sales promotion plan in which they had the active assistance of the entomological department of the University of Delaware. The partnership as a matter of fact was actually initiated by the college authorities in an effort to develop a more intelligent and effective attack on insect pests affecting Delaware crops. For some time the college had been mailing two bulletins to Delaware farmers, 'Orchard Spray Notes' and 'Vegetable Spray Notes,' giving advice on what to do when codling moths, oriental fruit moths, the plum curculio and other pests appear. Insecticide dealers, it was felt, ought to be acquainted with these recommendations, too, and the college folks also decided that it would be desirable if dealers had a better understanding of the principles of insect control, together with a knowledge of the action of different poisons on insects. Insecticide manufacturers were appealed to and they cooperated by supplying the Extension Service with lists of dealers in their products located in Delaware cities. An assistant in the entomology department then contacted these dealers and provided them with bulletins and other information explaining the principles of insect control as well as summarizing control measures which research had proven to be most effective...."

**Farm Lease Contracts**                As farmers faced another March 15th moving day, mid-point of an annual shifting of tenants which puts more than 5 million people on the road, Governor A. G. Black of the Farm Credit Administration called attention to the necessity of improved farm lease contracts. "Constant shifting of tenants is costing landlords and tenants more than \$150,000,000 a year," the Governor stated. "This is in large part a wastage of farm income, to say nothing of the impairment of human resources."



# DAILY DIGEST

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Vol. LXXVI, No. 56

Section 1

March 20, 1940

**MARGARINE RESTRICTIONS** The harmful effects on trade and the cost of living of state taxes, restrictions and regulations regarding the sale of margarine and the wholesaling of fruits and vegetables were detailed to the Temporary National Economic Committee yesterday by three witnesses called in the committee's study of interstate trade barriers, says a report in the New York Times.

The policy of the states has increased the retail price of margarine by from 25 to 150 percent, the committee was told by John Moloney, economist for the National Cottonseed Products Association. C. H. Janssen, president of the National Association of Margarine Manufacturers, said that while there was some justification for early laws designed to check deception and the adulterants of butter, the passage of the food and drug act and similar state laws removed this justification.

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**TRUCK CROP DAMAGE** Cold weather pushed deep into the South the second week in March with freezing temperatures in North Texas and frosts in the Everglades of Florida, reports the Agricultural Marketing Service. Some tender vegetables were injured and growth of the hardier sorts was delayed. Strong cold winds were particularly detrimental.

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**NEW ENGLAND FLOOD CONTROL** New England members of Congress and town officials appealed yesterday for Congressional authorization to construct flood control works on the Hoosick River in New York, Vermont and Massachusetts. They sought also additional authority to provide more local protection for seven Connecticut River cities in Massachusetts and Connecticut and for reservoir construction in the Connecticut and Merrimack Valleys. (A.P.)

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**RECORD SEARS ROEBUCK SALE** Merchandise sold and profits earned by Sears, Roebuck and Company in the year ended on January 31 were the largest in the 54 years that the company has been in business, it was reported yesterday by Gen. Robert E. Wood, chairman, and Thomas J. Carney, president. They described 1939 as the company's "most successful year." The previous high level was reached in the 1937 "recovery" boom. (Press.)  
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LaForge, Mo.  
Experiment

An editorial in the Missouri Ruralist, which comments on the LaForge experiment in New Madrid County (under the Farm Security Administration) says: "While socialistic in its aspect, nobody can deny that what generally is known as 'The LaForge Experiment' has been successful. In 1937, when 100 sharecropper families were assembled to take over a 6,700-acre block of land purchased by the government, the average total family possession was \$28. This included household goods. In effect, these families were penniless. The land was divided into 100 tracts, with substantial improvements built upon them. Loans for livestock, feed, seed and machinery were made, averaging \$1,314.54 a family -- a risk no banker would take on a \$28 property security. Interest at 5 per cent was charged and the loan was to be paid off in 5 years.

"Now here is what the LaForge administrators were able to show on December 20, 1939: During the 2-year period LaForge sharecroppers have paid the government \$42,438.47 on individual operating loans, and \$42,364.77 as rent. Five of the 100 families owed a total of \$500, the only delinquencies. An inventory showed an average cash surplus of \$377.71, after all operating cost has been net, and personal property valued at \$109,617, not counting a considerable food supply. Of course, it should be recalled more than \$130,000 was originally lent, but nobody can dispute the fact these wards of Uncle Sam have done well. They also operate a cooperative association, including a store and cotton gin which is making money, this venture being financed by a federal loan of \$19,930.

"Call it socialism if you like. But here is a group of families vastly better off than in 1937 who otherwise probably would be on relief. The LaForge folks have been aided by the government in many ways other than loans; expert agricultural supervision, a plan of work, concerted cooperative activity. They are no better men, women, or children than they were back in 1937 when their average possessions were \$28. But they certainly are better citizens of the nation and the state. It appears to us the LaForge experiment is a success, and 100 worthy families have been put on their feet."

Portable  
Greenhouse

A new portable type of greenhouse is available, says E. D. Chabot in the New York Times. "This greenhouse, which goes together in sections, has been adapted from an English type, and, with a few alterations and additions, made practicable for use in our cooler climate," he says. "It used to take a carpenter, mason, painter, plumber and pipe fitter to build a greenhouse, but any handy man can put up one of these portable glass gardens in a day or two. The parts are made up, all ready to bolt together, in two and a half foot wide panels. The heating is a simple matter, too. It is just an inexpensive affair that burns No. 2 oil, the same kind used in homes. It is provided with a thermostat control and so requires very little attention."



### Corn Fuel Cooperative

A new co-op, the Power Alcohol Cooperative Association, has been formed in Iowa to promote "alky gas," reports Business Week (March 16). "Membership is limited to Iowa oil, gas and farm co-ops, of which the state has more than 225," it says. "Talk is of investing \$200,000 using 300,000 bushels of corn annually, producing 2,500 gallons of alcohol daily. Organizers say the membership alone will put up all of the capital (there are 45,000-50,000 farm co-op members in Iowa). Individuals sympathetic to the project, but more experienced in six-figure finance than most cooperators, are estimating the enterprise can raise \$40,000 to \$50,000 from the cornfields, and must look to some government lending agency, probably the Bank for Cooperatives, for the balance. The Chemical Foundation and the National Farm Chemurgic Council say they are not backing this project....."

### Ads Aid Farmers

"Because state agricultural advertising proposals are before several legislatures, a survey completed recently by an advertising agency on the Pacific Coast, showing nine states now have such laws, is likely to attract considerable attention," says Business Week (March 16). "Farm and dairy promotion statutes have been enacted in Idaho to sell potatoes and onions, in Washington to promote apples and (soon) dairy products. California advertises prunes and pears, peaches and wine. Florida is spending some \$750,000 annually on citrus promotion. Maine pushes such items as potatoes, sweet corn, blueberries, lobsters, and scallops. Wisconsin promotes its dated cheese, New York, its maple syrup, milk, apples, corn, onions, potatoes, tomatoes, and ducklings; Iowa, dairy products, New Jersey, milk, eggs, apples, asparagus, blueberries, potatoes..... Most state-financed campaigns have paid out, the survey concludes. The Florida Citrus Commission is quoted as figuring each dollar invested has brought \$17 in sales increases. Maine potato growers found new markets and stabilized prices. California wine consumption is increasing. In Idaho the increase in average price per bushel received by potato producers in 1938 over 1937 was 60% more than the increase throughout the country."

### Alcohol Journal

The editors wish to announce the founding of a new scientific periodical to be called The Quarterly Journal of Studies on Alcohol. This journal has been accepted as the official organ for the Research Council on Problems of Alcohol, an associated society of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The first issue will appear in May. Investigators are invited to submit manuscripts to the editor, 4 Hillhouse Avenue, New Haven, Connecticut. (Science, March 15.)

Senate                      Began general debate on H. R. 8202, agricultural  
March 18                      appropriation bill.

Passed S. 3046, to extend the Hatch Act to State employees paid from Federal funds. Amendments agreed to: Neely amendment forbidding persons employed in any activity which uses Federal funds from soliciting political contributions from persons affected by this bill; Byrd amendment permitting participation in municipal elections, etc., near D.C.; Byrd amendment to prohibit political contributions from those who make money out of government contracts; Pittman amendment providing that all persons shall retain the right to express their opinions on candidates; Adams amendment providing that no person shall be prevented from being appointed or elected to office by this bill, if he does not use his official authority for such purpose; Brown amendment similar to Adams amendment.

Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported the following without amendment, H. R. 6480, authorizing operators of country public grain warehouses which lack space to move grain to another warehouse (S. Rept. 1325); and reported with amendment (March 15) H. J. Res. 258, to amend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act so as to require landowners to justify reductions in number of tenants before receiving increased payments (S. Rept. 1324). Committee on Civil Service reported without amendment S. 3368, to amend the Retirement Act so that military service of employees who receive disability compensation will be included in determining the period of service of employees (S. Rept. 1326).

House                      Bills passed: H. R. 8450, to make permanent the re-  
March 18                      duced rates of interest on Federal land bank and Land  
                                Bank Commissioner loans; H. R. 7643, to facilitate and  
simplify national-forest administration by exempting certain small collections from G.A.O. audit; S. 1759, granting the consent of Congress to Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming to enter into a compact for division of Yellowstone River waters; H. R. 6767, to provide additional compensation for employees killed or injured in hazardous law-enforcement activity; H. R. 7737, to amend the Judicial Code to provide for intervention by States and direct appeals to the U. S. Supreme Court in certain cases involving the constitutionality of the exercise of any U. S. power.

Received the conference report on S. 1955, to authorize the delegation of regulatory functions by the Secretary of Agriculture. The report substantially agrees to the House bill, which did not provide for a Second Assistant Secretary of Agriculture but authorized the Secretary to delegate regulatory functions to not more than two officers within the top grades of the classified civil service.

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

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# DAILY DIGEST

Prepared in the Press Service, Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture to present items of interest to agriculture and to agricultural workers. Views and opinions in these items are not necessarily approved by the Department.

Vol. LXXVI, No. 57

Section 1

March 21, 1940

## SENATE VOTES

### PARITY

### PAYMENTS

Despite warnings that a choice must be made between unbudgeted benefits for agriculture and either the levying of new taxes or an increase in the federal debt limit, the Senate voted \$12,000,000 yesterday for parity payments, says a report in the New York Times. The vote was 63 to 19 in support of an amendment by the Appropriations Committee to provide a return to growers of wheat, corn, rice, cotton and tobacco.

The roll call indicated that the Senate would approve today another unbudgeted committee amendment appropriating \$85,000,000 for the purchase and distribution of surplus commodities, if not a larger sum.

## 1939 COTTON

### GINNINGS

The Census Bureau announced yesterday in its final ginning report for the 1939-40 season that the cotton crop in 1939 totaled 11,812,281 equivalent 500-pound bales of lint cotton. The Department of Agriculture estimated 11,792,000 bales for the crop last December. Yesterday's final figures compare with 11,944,340 bales in 1938 and 18,945,028 bales in 1937, which was a record.

The Census Bureau reported 11,477,133 running bales, counting 175,140 round bales as half bales, were ginned during the season, compared with 11,623,221 and 157,979 in the 1938 crop, and 18,252,075 and 326,742 in the 1937 crop. Cotton ginned from the 1939 crop averaged shorter in length than the 1938 crop and the proportions in the lower grades of white cotton were somewhat larger. (A.P.)

## COTTON

### CLASSING

Dates for filing applications for the free classification of 1940 cotton grown by organized groups, and market news services for these groups, were announced yesterday by the Agricultural Marketing Service. Requests must be filed with the AMS not later than August 1 in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and the counties of Texas entirely or mostly east of the 100th Meridian. The final date for filing is August 15 for North Carolina, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona, California and the counties of Texas entirely or mostly west of the 100th Meridian. Applications may be made as soon as members of groups have planted their cotton.

Bread Tests  
for Wheat

"Teaching wheat improvement from a new angle -- bread baking demonstrations for women -- has been successfully used by the Kansas Wheat Improvement Association with the cooperation of the Kansas Extension Service," says Rachel Dittmore, in Northwestern Miller (March 13). "Not only was the baking of wheat demonstrated at meetings, but the women themselves for the first time had the opportunity of baking bread in their own kitchens using two flours milled from known varieties of wheat..... In distributing flour milled from known wheat varieties, the Kansas Wheat Improvement Association followed the lead of one or two millers who tried such an experiment last year. Flour was milled from Chiefkan and Tenmarq wheat of equal protein content at the Kansas State College mill. Samples of each were distributed to farm women in the communities where the meetings were scheduled with the request to use them in baking bread according to their own recipes and methods. Loaves baked by the women were displayed at the bread baking demonstrations and in most cases the advantages of Tenmarq flour over Chiefkan were easily discernible....."

1940 Crop  
Acreages

Apparently heeding official warnings against stepping up production in anticipation of greater war markets, farmers plan to plant pretty well within acreages recommended by the Agricultural Adjustment Administration this season, says an Associated Press report. A survey indicated, the Department of Agriculture said, that farmers would plant 21 percent less tobacco, 4 percent less corn, 5 percent less peanuts and cowpeas, 2 percent less sweet potatoes and virtually the same acreage of wheat as in the 1939 season. The survey did not include cotton.

The report indicated that many producers, in order to comply with AAA programs and thereby become eligible for benefit payments, would shift from the major surplus crops to soy beans, hay, pasture, oats, and beans. The aggregate acreage for all crops is likely, the department said, to be not greatly different from that of last year.

Synthetic  
Starch

"Dr. Charles S. Hanes of Cambridge University (England) announced in Nature that he has synthesized starch from glucose, a form of sugar," says Waldemar Kaempffert in Science in the News (New York Times). "This is an achievement of the highest importance because he has duplicated in the laboratory a process which has hitherto occurred only in plants. Only twenty grams of synthetic starch have thus far been made, enough, however, to convince biochemists that another successful attempt has been made to fathom the mystery of life. Doctor Hanes succeeded in performing his difficult feat only with the aid of an enzyme, which is called phosphorylase and which breaks down phosphorus-containing glucose and then rebuilds the molecules into starch....."



Grades  
for Logs      "It is a strange thing that there has never been established in the hardwood trade a universally adopted system of log grading," says an editorial in Southern Lumberman (March 15) commenting on an article, "Log Grades and Lumber Yields," written by a practical sawmill man. "The Forest Products Laboratory," it continues, "more than 18 months ago undertook a systematic study of the development of hardwood log grades for Northern hardwoods; and when the Forest Service was faced with the task of salvaging the New England blow-down timber last year it drafted a set of log rules based on the Laboratory's studies. The basic principle of the Laboratory's experimental grade rules is that logs should be graded on the same basis as the lumber to be cut from them, and that hardwood logs, therefore, should be on a clear cutting content basis rather than a size of defect basis. This is the same principle followed by the author of the article in this issue of the Southern Lumberman. Standardized grading rules for hardwood lumber are today accepted as a matter of course, a necessity without which the industry could not very well exist. Isn't the hardwood trade about ready to make the forward step of establishing similar standards for its logs?"

Seneca  
Soybean      Professor R. G. Wiggins of the department of plant breeding at Cornell University says that the new soybean variety, Seneca, will prove a boon to New York state dairy farmers, though the seed will not be available for another year. The Seneca soybean will be used chiefly for grain as it produces about thirty percent more than does the present popular variety Cayuga. Its growing season is 10 to 14 days longer than for the Cayuga. Seneca produces yellow seeds which are preferred to the black seeds of the Cayuga. The variety has been producing more than 35 bushels to the acre on the University farm at Ithaca for the past several years, and a seed supply is accumulating. (Grain & Feed Journals, March 13.)

Oil From  
Grapeseed      Private research in California has been working on a commercially feasible method of producing oil from grapeseeds by the solvent method, and a San Francisco paint manufacturer has been perfecting a new paint formula utilizing grapeseed oil. Up to the present time, grapeseed oil has been extracted in this country only from raisin seeds and only by the hydraulic crushing process. Vintners in California had 800,000 tons of wine grapes unused from last year's crop (320,000 tons of pomace containing 80,000 tons of oil-bearing seed). Paint manufacturers would be among the largest consumers of grapeseed oil, especially as they were hard hit last year by increases of 25 percent in the price of linseed, 60 percent in perilla and 80 percent in tung oil, resulting from restrictions of shipments from the Orient. (Business Week, March 16.)



Senate Continued debate on agricultural appropriation  
March 19 bill. The committee amendments were agreed to down  
to O.E.S.

Rejected the conference report on H.R. 8641, first deficiency appropriation bill, because of Senate support of its figure of \$3,000,000 for grasshopper control. The House figure was \$2,000,000, and the conferees had agreed to this figure. Other items for this Department, which were not subject to conference-committee action, are: \$3,550,000 for fighting forest fires, \$10,000 for the Federal Seed Act, and \$60,000,000 for A.A.A. payments.

Committee on Banking and Currency reported favorably the following nominations: Roy M. Green, to be Land Bank Commissioner; Carl R. Arnold, to be Production Credit Commissioner.

Amendments to agricultural appropriation bill were submitted, as follows: by Mr. Downey; to increase the item for acquisition of forest lands to \$3,000,000; by Mr. LaFollette; to increase disposal of surplus commodities to \$113,000,000; by Mr. Mead, to increase crop and livestock estimates to \$825,000; to increase market news service to \$1,205,000; by Mr. Byrd (for Mr. Overton), to provide that \$5,000 of the market-news-service item shall be available for New Orleans; by Mr. Bilbo, to increase the parity-payments item to \$607,000,000.

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Survey of A project designed to provide a more precise  
Employment measurement of monthly changes in farm employment than is now possible on the basis of returns from crop reporters is being sponsored by the Agricultural Marketing Service for operation with Work Projects Administration funds. This project of the Division of Agricultural Statistics will get under way during the latter part of this month. (A.M.S. News, March 15.)

February February exports of United States merchandise,  
Exports according to figures issued by the Department of Commerce, were 57 percent greater than in February of last year, but about 6 percent less than the high figures of December and January. The decline from the preceding months was partly due to the fewer shipping days in February. The export total was \$339,000,000.

White Meat American turkeys, with the help of breeders, are evolving in two directions; toward smaller "streamlined" birds to fit modern ovens, and toward larger-breasted fowls with more white meat, says Newsweek (March 18). Ramona (California) turkey growers have developed the Ramona Broadbreast, which boasts about twice as much white meat as the ordinary turkey.

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Vol. LXXVI, No. 58

Section 1

March 22, 1940

## INTERSTATE TRADE BARS

Witnesses from the dairy and plant nursery industries contended before the Monopoly Committee yesterday that laws enacted for the ostensible purpose of protecting public health or preventing spread of plant contagion have been used effectively as barriers to interstate trade. Representing for the most part individuals or organizations in the Middle West, the witnesses urged cooperation among the states to eliminate duplication of inspection and conflicting sanitary and production requirements. Several of the dairy spokesmen also blamed federal milk marketing regulations for curtailing interstate trade to the benefit of local producers and the expense of some consumers. (A.P.)

## CREDIT BILL TESTIMONY

"The Jones farm lending bill would lead to 'a form of pawnshop credit,' Albert S. Goss, former Land Bank Commissioner, asserted yesterday before the House Agriculture Committee," says Hedley Donovan in the Washington Post. "Goss contended that the bill, which forbids deficiency judgments against Land Bank borrowers, 'destroys the principle of personal responsibility, which underlies all sound credit policies.' The former commissioner said the cooperative feature of the farm credit system would be abolished by the provision of the Jones measure, which frees borrowers from the obligation to take 5 percent of their loans in Land Bank stock..."

## "FRIENDS OF THE LAND"

A non-profit, non-partisan association to combat soil erosion, the waste of rainfall and the resultant human waste and displacement will hold its first meeting today in Washington, says a report in the New York Times. It is tentatively called Friends of the Land. Sponsors are Morris L. Cooke, Stuart Chase, Paul Sears and J. N. Darling. A supporting committee of one hundred includes Dr. Albert Einstein, Dr. Charles E. Beard, Rexford G. Tugwell, Aldo Leopold and Dr. Isaiah Bowman. "Within the government and without," Mr. Cooke, chairman, said in part, "we need conservation programs which recognize the essential unity of soil, water, forest, game and human problems and which are so coordinated as to advance as one..."

Article on                      Frontiers of Democracy (March 15) contains an  
N.R.P.B.                      article on the National Resources Planning Board, by  
George Soule, editor of the New Republic. "So far  
the Board has done more to stimulate imaginations and to further  
certain important physical planning projects than it has to fill the  
role of a serious and adequate planning center for the national econ-  
omy as a whole," Mr. Soule says in the concluding paragraphs. "For  
a large part of its life it has been remote from the seat of authority,  
fearful of opposition. During this time it has built a growing under-  
standing of the planning function, has given scope to a number of  
talents, and finally has landed in a place where a real beginning at  
social and economic planning is possible, provided the President, Con-  
gress and the country wish to make use of it.

"Will the Board be equipped with the leadership, the money and the  
staff so that it can tackle the big job? Will it be able, with the aid  
of experts throughout the government service, to forge a coherent series  
of well-calculated recommendations for a program to bring full produc-  
tion, the abolition of unemployment, adjustment to war and post-war  
strains? At any rate, the modest effort to introduce coordinated intel-  
ligence into governmental activity has consistently if slowly been  
strengthened as the years have gone by.

"In spite of all our fears of intelligence, we do sometimes call  
upon it when we are desperate and have tried everything else unsuc-  
cessfully. The necessary planning agencies and attitudes have spread  
steadily in the various regions and on the various levels of function.  
Problems are slowly being analyzed and defined. Congress and the  
other anti-planning forces may some day wake up to the fact that while  
they were trying to suppress the planning concept, the real thing has  
established itself in our nervous system. They will discover then that  
it is in fact nothing like dictatorship but is, on the contrary, an es-  
sential of the only safeguard against arbitrary authority: a disciplined  
and ordered democracy."

U.S. Imports                      The United Kingdom held its place in 1939 as the  
to Britain                      leading market for United States exports, according to  
figures issued recently by the Department of Commerce,  
but the war has brought about a decided change in the character of the  
exports that she is taking. Shipments of agricultural products, with  
the exception of cotton, have fallen off, while those of finished and  
semi-finished manufactures have increased. Imports of United States  
tobacco, which had been \$68,000,000 in the last four months of 1938,  
dropped to \$10,000,000 in 1939. Imports of grains, fruits, animal  
food products and furs from the United States also fell off substan-  
tially. (New York Times.)



### New Hull-less Oats

"One of the most promising recent contributions to new varieties of grain is the Nakota hull-less oats released last spring by the agronomy department of South Dakota State College, at Brookings," says E. G. Sanderson, Brookings County Crop Improvement Association, in Country Gentleman (April). "Nakota, a combination of the words naked and Dakota, represents many years of oat breeding carried on by Prof. Matthew Fowlds, now retired. Nakota is entirely hull-less, threshes easily, does not shatter, is both smut and rust resistant and is medium early. The straw is stiff and of good height, and the yield is very good for a hull-less variety, producing between 35 and 40 bushels per acre and as high as 50 bushels under favorable conditions. Hull-less oats will not replace common oats as a standard crop, but this new smut-resistant variety should in time have a place on every farm where young pigs and chickens are raised. The high protein content of this grain, minus the objectionable hulls, makes it a perfect feed for promoting growth in young farm animals."

### Anemia in Farm Children

Farm children in Florida, and other regions as well, are in danger of severe nutritional anemia if they live on home-grown food from poor soil that is deficient in iron. Such anemia is not primarily due to hookworm disease as previously believed, Dr. Ouida Davis Abbott, of the Florida Experiment Station, recently told members of the American Institute of Nutrition. Hookworm infection affects the degree of anemia, but the prevalence of anemia among rural children in Florida is due primarily to diets low in iron, Doctor Abbott stated. From Nova Scotia, Massachusetts, North and South Carolina and Georgia as well as Florida have come reports of deficient soils and mineral deficiency diseases of cattle. Anemia was discovered in from 52 to 96% of rural children in Florida living in regions where the soil was predominantly deficient as shown by prevalence of salt sick of cattle. (Science Service.)

### Transportation Regulation

A special board of inquiry which would provide the background for future Congressional action to coordinate all forms of transportation was endorsed this week by House and Senate conferees on the transportation bill, says a report by the Wall Street Journal Washington Bureau. The new board would be appointed by the President to investigate and report to Congress the best means by which the coordination could be accomplished. It would also look into the extent to which government subsidies, direct and indirect, have favored one form of transportation at the expense of another.

Senate                      Confirmed the following nominations without objection:  
March 20                      Carl R. Arnold, Production Credit Commissioner;  
                                Roy M. Green, Land Bank Commissioner.

                                Committee on Agriculture and Forestry reported without amendment H. R. 3406, for forest protection against the white-pine blister rust. (S. Rept. 1331.) Committee on Banking and Currency reported with amendments S. 785, to repeal the Silver Purchase Act of 1934. (S. Rept. 1332.) Committee on Commerce reported with amendment H. R. 6884, to encourage travel in the U. S. (S. Rept. 1333.)

House                      Agreed to the conference report on S. 1955, to  
March 20                      authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to delegate regulatory functions to not more than two persons in the Department within the top two grades of the classified civil service. The Senate has not yet acted on the report.

(From the Office of Budget and Finance.)

Wheat                      "An 88 percent increase in trading in wheat  
Trading                      futures on the Chicago Board of Trade during the six months, September 1, 1939, through February 29, 1940, over the same period last year and a 34 cent per bushel price increase during the six months since the European War started has not been accompanied by any net foreign selling in wheat futures," Dr. J. W. T. Duvel, Chief of the Commodity Exchange Administration, stated recently. "Unsatisfactory crop conditions and the war have undoubtedly increased the interest of foreigners in the American market." Through the reports received daily from every large trader (those having over 200,000 bushels long or short or whose daily transactions equal that amount) the Commodity Exchange Administration knows exactly what large interests, both domestic and foreign, are in the market.

Private                      In a far-reaching decision, U. S. District Judge  
Forestry                      Leon R. Jankwich in February ruled that the government has no authority to impose selective cutting regulations upon timber lands in the Quinalt Indian Reservation, Grays Harbor, Washington, says West Coast Lumberman (March). This decision, probably the first ever handed down on this question, may have an important bearing on whether selective cutting and other regulations should be imposed upon private timber owners by the government. Judge Jankwich said that the only restrictions placed over the Indian owners of the timber lands in question "are those which the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe as to payment of the timber sale proceeds for the benefit of the Indian owner." It is expected the government will appeal the case.



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Section 1

March 25, 1940

## INTERSTATE TRADE BAR TESTIMONY

Congress was urged Saturday to use the power of federal funds and federal laws to break down the network of trade barriers being erected by states and local governments throughout the nation, says an Associated Press report. The suggestion was presented to the monopoly committee by Dr. W. Y. Elliott, Harvard University authority, in summarizing a week of public hearings on interstate trade barriers. Testifying that recent decisions indicated that the Supreme Court "washes its hands of the problem," Dr. Elliott said that the justices had invited "Congress to remedy the evil."

He suggested that when states or municipalities discriminated against the free flow of commerce, such as motor truck traffic and milk sales, Congress would be justified in holding back federal grants for highways, health and other usual aids. Secretary Wallace, in a letter to Chairman O'Mahoney, said that he favored a "continuing committee on federal-state relations." He wrote that Agriculture Department officials were "anxious to find a solution" for the problems of trade barriers which will permit a freer flow of farm products in interstate commerce.

## RECIPROCAL TRADE ACT

The Senate begins debate today on legislation to extend the reciprocal trade treaty act for three years, says a report in the Washington Times Herald. The law, under which the State Department has negotiated 22 trade pacts with South American and European powers, expires on June 12. Continuation of the program is one of the few "must" Administration measures before Congress and already has been approved by the House. It appeared last night the Senate fight would center about a drive to make future treaties negotiated under the act subject to Senate ratification.

## W.B. UNIT PLANNED

Plans are going forward for construction of a \$250,000 first unit of the new Weather Bureau at Twenty-fourth and M Streets Northwest (Washington). The 6-story brick building will be placed in front of the present central building, with which it will be connected by a covered passageway. Two other units will be constructed later if funds are appropriated by Congress. The building will be surmounted by a 100-foot metal aerometer tower. (Washington Times Herald.)

Food Stamp  
Program

The food stamp plan is the subject of an article by Don Wharton in the American Mercury (April). "Everybody likes the stamp plan, I judge after traveling 4000 miles, visiting 8 cities in the South, Southwest, Middle West and East," the author says. "Reliefers like it because it means more food, better food. Farmers like it because it means larger markets and protects prices from being wrecked by surpluses. To grocers, wholesale and retail, it means more customers, more business, greater profits. Bankers, chamber of commerce secretaries, and businessmen in general are glad to see more money circulating in their towns. Politicians know it pleases their constituents and means their poor are better fed without extra cost to their own communities. Social workers and doctors approve because it means better diet for the poor, hence better health and eventually decreased costs of charitable medicine. Railroad men like it because it means more freight traffic."

"The strange thing is that in stamp cities one out of four relief families do not participate. Why? Some don't keep house; some haven't heard; some can't understand; some are apathetic, satisfied. Of those participating how many are chiseling? No one knows. Every grocer tells of customers sidling up, wanting to buy non-surplus goods with blue stamps, cigarettes or liquor with orange stamps. Or wanting cash for the stamps, or cash in change. Usually they claim another grocer is doing it and threaten to take their trade to him. Some grocers are chiseling, though government investigators are convinced it isn't happening in the chains...But generally chiseling seems to be the exception, thanks to healthy cooperation between A-men and the businessmen."

## Measure

## vs. Weight

Because of the growing tendency in this country to abandon the use of dry measure in favor of sales by weight, the National Bureau of Standards has been called on by several state administrations to recommend bills which would eliminate the present legal bushel designations for fruits and vegetables, Dr. Lyman J. Briggs, <sup>director</sup> said recently. Such bills are now under consideration in Mississippi and North Carolina. (Food Field Reporter, March 18.)

Container  
for Cheese

A new cardboard container for processed cheese intended to take the place of the wooden box has been perfected by an Ohio boxboard company and two cheese companies, says a report in Food Field Reporter (March 18). The new package consists of three pieces, a cover, a bottom and a sleeve. The sleeve is made of heavy white fiber-board and forms a mold for hot cheese poured in during the packaging process. One merit of the container is that no tools are needed to open the package.



## Live-at-Home

"Many farmers have gotten too far away from farming as a way of living, producing food, clothing, fuel and shelter for the family first of all," says an editorial in the Nebraska Farmer (March 9). "In recent drouth years those who depended mostly upon commercial markets for food were pinched hardest when crop failure swept away income and forced liquidation of livestock. Their living was an additional cash expense, whereas careful planning and accumulation of home grown food reserves would have lightened the burden and left more money for other necessary expenditures. To have adequate food reserves from the farm, first requires ample feed supplies and reserves for livestock and poultry, because meat, milk, butter, eggs and poultry furnish most of the farm grown food. With more thought and planning for family food production the distress of dry years will be greatly alleviated."

## Fertilizer

"To provide for variations in sampling and analysis, the fertilizer manufacturer, to avoid penalties, must include more plant food in his fertilizer than he guarantees to be there," says an editorial in the Fertilizer Review (January-February). "During the year 1939 the Fertilizer Control Administration of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture obtained and analyzed 5,174 samples of fertilizers and fertilizer materials sold in the State. The average commercial value of the fertilizers was found by these analyses to be 81 cents a ton more than the value guaranteed. During the year, 1,215,890 tons of fertilizer and fertilizer materials were sold in the State. On the basis of the State's inspection, the farmers of the State received \$984,870.90 worth of plant food more than they paid for. Only 291 of the 5,174 samples analyzed were penalized for deficiencies, and the total of all penalties, which are from two to four times the actual deficiencies, was only \$2,993.91 and only a little over one hundredth of 1 percent of the value of the fertilizer sold."

## New Bill on

Retirement      An increase of 1 percent in the federal employees' contribution to the retirement fund is provided, with an accompanying decrease in the optional retirement ages, in a bill introduced in the Senate recently by Senator M. M. Neely of West Virginia, says a report in the Washington Times-Herald. The bill proposes that employees shall have optional retirement at 60 years of age after 30 years of service and at 62 years of age after 15 years of service. The bill raises the employee's contribution to 4 1/2 percent. It also provides that retirement shall be optional with the government. A board of appeals to handle cases of employees retired against their wills also is set up in the measure, which has been referred to the Civil Service Committee.

## Trade Pact

A London dispatch by Havas says an Anglo-Dutch trade accord was signed this week-end. A consultative commission will be set up at The Hague to settle questions arising during application of the agreement.



Senate Continued debate on the agricultural appropriation  
 March 21 bill. Agreed to the following committee amendments:  
 adding \$85,000,000 for the F.S.C.C.; providing for \$40,-  
 000,000 to be borrowed from the R.F.C. for rural electrification loans;  
 providing for \$50,000,000 to be borrowed from the R.F.C. for farm ten-  
 ant loans. Other amendments agreed to were: increasing the D.C. salary  
 limitation for C.E.A. to \$214,050; making the "conservation and use"  
 item available for the purchase of "soil conservation services"; strik-  
 ing out the proviso under "conservation and use..." which would make  
 this item available for 1940 obligations; making persons eligible for  
 1938-39 A.A.A. payments who leased public land, particularly Forest  
 Service land; reappropriating the balance of the New England hurricane  
 damage appropriation; permitting interchanges between D.C. and regional  
 offices of the F.S.C.C. funds for administrative expenses; earmarking  
 \$5,000 of the market news service item for New Orleans; increasing "cot-  
 ton and other fiber crops and diseases" by \$8,345; making cooperative  
 farm forestry nursery funds available for 3 years; adding \$13,200 to  
 "agricultural chemical investigations" to provide for the Winterhaven  
 Laboratory, Fla.; increasing "market news service" by \$25,000 (as modi-  
 fied). An amendment to increase "fruit and vegetable crops and dis-  
 eases" by \$10,000 was rejected.

House Began general debate on H.R. 9007, Labor-Federal-  
 March 21 Security/appropriation bill, which was reported from the Committee on  
 Appropriations (H.Rept. 1822). This bill provides  
 \$230,000,000 for the Civilian Conservation Corps.

Senate Passed without a record vote the agricultural ap-  
 March 22 propriation bill. Agreed to Haydon amendment earmark-  
 ing \$5,000 of "eradicating cattle ticks" for supplying  
 beef to the Seminole Indians. Mr. Ellender's motion to suspend the  
 rules in order to propose an amendment, to limit the withholding of  
 sugar payments in the cane sugar area, was rejected. Mr. Byrd's amend-  
 ment limiting sugar payments to \$10,000, and his amendment limiting  
 such payments to \$50,000, were rejected.

Recessed until Monday. The House was not in session.

(Prepared by Office of Budget and Finance.)

Broadcast Some excellent equipment for large-scale broad-  
 Dusting cast dusting has been developed in the Palouse area in  
 the past two years for controlling the pea weevil, says  
 a report by the Idaho College of Agriculture in Farm Machinery and  
 Equipment (March). The dusting machiner is mounted on two-wheel carts,  
 four-wheel carts, wheel tractors, the rear end of crawler tractors, and  
 trucks. Both high and low pressure distributing systems have been used  
 with good results. Records for 10 machines indicated that 10,903 acres  
 were protected by dusting 3,300 acres of borders, draws and infested  
 areas. Peas harvested from treated fields had a weevil dockage of 5  
 percent or less.



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Section 1

March 26, 1940

## ANTI-TRUST DECISION

The ethyl gasoline decision (by the Supreme Court) was hailed yesterday by Assistant Attorney General Thurman Arnold as the most important ruling on the subject of the use of patents to restrain trade that ever has been handed down by any court, says a United Press report. "It will serve as a very helpful guide to the department in our general investigations of patents," he said. "The decision in its effect goes far beyond the oil industry."

## NEW SOURCES OF RUBBER

Asserting that an "acute rubber shortage would bring untold grief" to the United States, P. W. Litchfield, president of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, suggested yesterday that the government look toward development of rubber plantations in Latin America. Mr. Litchfield said Goodyear's experiments in Central America had shown that rubber "eventually can be grown as well as in the Far East," and, "looking ahead 20 or more years, it would seem our government would be wise to interest itself in the development of rubber plantations in those Latin-American countries which offer suitable conditions." (A.P.)

## DEVICE TESTS WOOL IMPORTS

A machine that automatically tests foreign wools to determine the clean content upon which customs levies are based was demonstrated publicly yesterday for the first time at the Treasury Department's new wool-testing laboratory in Boston, one of the largest wool-importing ports. Imports of Australian, South African and South American wools, that have amounted to about 115,000,000 pounds during the first nine months of the current fiscal year, come into the country in the grease. It is partly upon the clean or scoured content that customs duties, averaging around \$16,000,000 annually, are based. (A.P.)

## NEWSPRINT SOURCES

Canada has temporarily obtained control of virtually the entire newsprint field in Australia, a large consumer of print paper, according to an Ottawa report to the New York Times. Supplies from Germany and German-occupied countries have ceased entirely and deliveries from the Scandinavian countries have become so uncertain owing to the war that the Australian market has fallen to Canada, according to R. P. Bower, trade commissioner in Sydney.

Conservation                      The new organization, Friends of the Land (see  
Organization      March 22 Daily Digest) has elected Morris Llewellyn  
Cooke president of the organization, says a report  
in the Washington Post. Cooke, former Rural Electrification Admin-  
istrator, said that in 75 or 100 years, America would not be regarded  
as a permanent country unless soil erosion is soon stopped.

J. N. "Ding" Darling, famous as a cartoonist and as a conserva-  
tionist, told the Friends of the Land that no Nation was ever more  
"criminally wasteful" of its land than this one. Stuart Chase, econo-  
mist and author, said that America for three generations had grabbed  
and used the country's resources greedily. "Now we know," he said, "that  
our resources are not limitless. Already we are running short of good  
soil." Rexford G. Tugwell bemoaned the evidence of mineral wastage,  
of timber slaughter, of soil losses by wind and water, and said that it  
raised the question of whether Americans can establish for the race such  
a permanent superiority as will insure survival.

J. Russell Smith, professor of economic geography at Columbia Uni-  
versity, said that homeless wanders in California were the fruit of the  
unintelligent application of European agriculture in this country. He  
said: "In America the European people have plowed up the hillsides and  
planted three soil destroyers; namely corn, cotton, tobacco. Unlike  
European small grains these plants stand far apart, require the ground  
between them to be repeatedly plowed -- the perfect preparation for  
erosion." Russell Lord, of Maryland, was elected editor of Friends of  
the Land. He will publish a magazine called "The Land." Charles Col-  
lier of Virginia was elected executive director.

Cotton                              A large silk hosiery company is starting to move.  
Hosiery                      U.S.D.A. Style No. 106 cotton-mesh hose into its 10,000  
nation-wide retail outlets, reports Business Week(Mar.23).The  
retail price will be \$1. "Faced with the fact that cotton stockings  
had to be made sheer and flattering to sell," the publication goes on  
to say, "the cotton industry turned to David H. Young, who ten years  
ago created the dull, high-twist method of knitting silk hosiery. In  
cooperation with the Bureau of Home Economics and the Mercerizers As-  
sociation of America, Young has developed a full-fashioned, high-qual-  
ity, cotton stocking, knit on the same machines used for silk hosiery.  
At present the hose are being made of high-quality commercial yarn, but  
Young believes it may be possible to knit them from other varieties of  
yarn of longer than commercial length. Neither the hosiery company nor  
the cotton industry believes the new product will replace silk as the  
No. 1 stocking ingredient, but they are confident that stylists can put  
them over for sport, utility, and even afternoon wear. Heavy promotion  
is being held off, however, until the first sales returns are in."



Artificial  
Breeding  
Studies

The National Dairy Products Corporation has established a three-year fellowship at the New Jersey Experiment Station for "a study of methods to increase the efficiency of artificial breeding of dairy cattle," says an article in April Farmer's Digest (reprinted from New Jersey Farm and Garden). Wallace Moreland, New Jersey station editor and author of the article, says that among other objectives "this research will seek to determine how herd sires and cows should be fed, exercised and managed in order to give the best results under the 'test tube' plan of breeding. Studies also will be made of the organization and operation of New Jersey's five breeding units. Thoughtful dairy leaders are agreed that the grant comes at an opportune time. Some have feared that extension of the 'test tube' breeding plan -- more than twenty states have followed New Jersey in setting up units -- might be too rapid for best interests of the dairy industry. Research on the problem will provide additional information which can be used to advantage in reaching intelligent decisions as to the form further development of the plan should take."

Radios on  
the Farm

Rural radio ownership has jumped from an estimated one out of four rural families in 1930 to three out of four today, says W. B. Lewis, of the National Broadcasting Company, in the article, "The Farmer Turns to Radio," in April Farmer's Digest. "The farmer's need for news," the author says in part, "is wholly different from the city man's. He, of course, wants to keep posted on world events, on sports and politics. But more than this, the farmer needs news of crops and markets and weather. And he has learned to turn to radio for prompt information on his own problems. This means that farm news must be locally originated service.....A report from Columbia's affiliated stations last year showed that they were producing 320 special farm programs every week, and this service is constantly expanding.....WBT, the CBS station in Charlotte, N.C., demonstrates the way such local services work. The WBT Farm Bureau is headed by a full time editor and librarian to handle individual replies to questions from farmers on agricultural programs, and to produce programs furnishing authoritative data on latest farming methods. The farm bureau has obtained from the U. S. Department of Agriculture a library of over 4,000 government bulletins and year-books....."

"A random round-up of experiences at other CBS stations shows that these localized efforts are bearing record fruit. The Indiana Farm Bureau, following a year's use of WFBM, Indianapolis, checked with its branch managers throughout the state and found that thousands of baby chicks had been sold by the Bureau's hatchery to farmers in that section -- directly traceable to the farm program on WFBM. Branch managers of the Bank of America, located in the citrus belt in California, reported that weather reports and frost warnings on KNX, Los Angeles, were being heard with 100 percent regularity by farmers in their areas. Farmers listening to a program on WWL, New Orleans, wrote over 5,000 letters to the station after a single broadcast."



Control of Patents                      "Numerous educational institutions are undertaking to participate with their faculty in securing the control of patents resulting from research," says an editorial in Chemical & Metallurgical Engineering (March). "The surprising extent to which this idea has developed is made clear by a summary presented at the Christmas meeting of the American Association for Advancement of Science by Dean A. A. Potter of Purdue. He has helpfully summarized the forms of contract and control arrangement which various schools are undertaking to establish. Industries seeking to cooperate with educational institutions or their faculty members must take account of this development. Apparently it is no longer practical for industry to use indiscriminately the consulting services of faculty men in cases where a patentable invention may result. At those schools where an attempt is made to have the institution control such inventions, it will require some care to be sure that proper arrangements are made with valuable faculty consultants in order to avoid serious misunderstanding between industry and the institutions involved....."

Government Publications              In a campaign to boost sales the Government Printing Office will soon place in 50,000 postoffices an illustrated poster describing its more popular publications, Alton P. Tisdell, Superintendent of Documents, recently told a subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. The poster will give the prices of some of Uncle Sam's best sellers, and invite attention to the fact that government agencies are gathering facts in nearly every field of human knowledge. About 65,000 titles, covering a wide range of subjects, will be found on the shelves of the Government Printing Office.

Last year the G.P.O. sold nearly 13,000,000 books and other publications, a 5,000,000 increase over the number sold in 1933. The 1939 sales netted nearly \$1,000,000. In addition to "Infant Care" (of which more than 2,300,000 copies have been sold) popular titles include "The Child From 1 to 6," "The Vitamin Contents of Food," "Famous Trees," "Manual of Grasses," "The Care and Repair of the House," and a description of United States postage stamps. There is a lively demand for government publications on sex education, agriculture and home economics. (New York Times.)

Exports From Argentina              Exports from Argentina to the United States totaled \$9,085,064 in February, as against \$4,946,238 in the same month of 1939, an increase of 84 percent, the Department of Commerce reported recently. The principal commodities in which gains were made were wool, dairy products, preserved meat, linseed, and minerals and metals. (New York Times.)

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